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Benazir and Ishaq Khan smile as they watch a National Day military parade. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pakistan Day parade

Indian build-up played

ISLAMABAD, March 23. (Agencies) Pakistan condemned New Delhi's military build-up today as a source of unrest in South Asia and accused India of trying to dominate its smaller neighbours.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, addressing a Pakistan Day military parade in Islamabad, said some nations tried to enslave people through military power.

"In the east, our neighbouring country is not only creating unrest in the whole region by increasing its military power but also insists on denying the people of Kashmir their recognised right to self-determination with the force of the sword," he said.

Without naming India directly, Ishaq Khan said it was regrettable some powers tried to dominate smaller countries through increased military strength.

Ishaq Khan's speech, a sharp departure from the normally bland Pakistan Day address, is likely to anger India which is fighting a Muslim revolt in Kashmir it rules.

Ishaq Khan, referring to a worldwide trend for countries to free themselves from foreign domination, said: "India should learn a lesson from history and understand that freedom struggles when they cannot be crushed by force for long."

The Pakistan Day ceremony marked the 50th anniversary of the Lahore resolution, the first concerted call for Muslims in the Indian sub-continent to have their own nation.

For the first time, the traditional military parade was held in Islamabad instead of the nearby city of Rawalpindi, but most opposition politicians stayed away.

Among the items on display were Pakistan's first indigenously produced surface-to-air missiles, the Haft-2, built last year with Chinese assistance, and its first locally assembled battle tank, the T-69-1MP. US-made F-16 jetfighters screamed overhead during the procession.

On Afghanistan, where Islamabad is backing Muslim rebels fighting the pro-Soviet government, he said Pakistan will "always continue to support the Afghan freedom fighters who are struggling against a puppet government."

US prevented 'misadventure': Singh

NEW DELHI, March 23. (Agencies) Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh has ruled out talks with Pakistan on Kashmir, where Muslim militants are fighting for secession from India.

He said the problems of the state would be solved by talking to the people of Kashmir. "There is no question of talking to anybody else on it," he added.

Singh, returning from Namibian independence celebrations, told reporters aboard his aircraft yesterday that Pakistan was using its media to incite people in the Kashmir valley, the Press Trust of India said.

These are not gestures that could help form the basis of friendship. We have exercised a lot of restraint. We have kept our channels of communication open," he said.

Kashmir dominated Singh's discussions with other leaders in the Namibian capital, Windhoek. He said the United States had exercised pressure on Pakistan preventing it from launching a "misadventure".

Asked about Singh's comments, a US diplomatic source said: "Washington has been in touch with both India and Pakistan and we urge that a dialogue begin at the earliest possible time."

Singh said the current atmosphere was not conducive to a meeting with Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

"We can have bilateral talks with Pakistan but for summit level the atmosphere has to be created. Certainly it has to be different from the present (atmosphere)," he added.

Kashmir has become the biggest political headache of Singh's 16-week-old government.

Normal life has been virtually paralysed in the Kashmir valley where a curfew has been in force since mid-January.

The state administration has cancelled a regular break in the curfew and launched a massive search for arms and militants in the state's summer capital, Srinagar.

Militants told non-Kashmiri officials yesterday to leave the state before the end of the month. One group, Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, has threatened to burn alive those found spying on militants.

ISLAMABAD, March 23. (AP) Opposition politicians boycotted the opening session of the federal legislature yesterday, charging a legal technicality had severed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's claim to power.

Members of Benazir's party suggested the opposition go to court.

Only eight lawmakers took their seats on the opposition bench and demanded that Benazir face re-election among the members of the National Assembly, the law-making house of Pakistan's Parliament.

"We regret we cannot participate (in this session)," said Abida Hussein, an influential member of the 16 mainly right-wing parties that make up the alliance known as the combined opposition parties.

The opposition's demand centres around a clause in Pakistan's constitution that empowered the president to appoint the prime minister. That clause expired last Tuesday, and opposition leaders contend Benazir must be re-elected by secret ballot in the 237-member assembly.

Pakistan's media was convinced that Benazir would voluntarily seek a vote of confidence, but Information Minister Ahmad Saeed Awan said in an interview the government would not fall into any opposition trap.

"We have the majority and this provision does not apply to us, so we do not want to come to the field," he said.

Opposition leader Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, announcing a boycott of the day's proceedings, earlier accused the government of trying to undermine public rallies the opposition had planned for Pakistan Day.

"We believe she is no longer the prime minister. She has no power to convene the house so any session would be illegal," said Shaikat Abbasi.

Saudis, Oman demarcate borders

RIYADH, March 23. (UPI) Saudi Arabia and Oman on Wednesday demarcated their joint border, Riyadh radio reported.

Saudi King Fahd and Sultan Qaboos of Oman signed the agreement in Haifa Al Barin, located north east of Saudi Arabia, the radio said.

The agreement "provides for identifying pasture areas and regulating the movement of individuals on the basis of equity, mutual interest and the sovereignty of each country," it said.

The demarcation agreement, reached between Fahd and Qaboos last December when the

two met in Omani capital of Muscat, "would further strengthen the brotherly ties between Oman and Saudi Arabia," Riyadh radio quoted Qaboos as saying.

The agreement is based on "the line declared between the two countries," the radio said but gave no further details.

"It is a historic day," Qaboos said. "History will no doubt remember this day."

For his part, Fahd described the accord as "an historic occasion."

Saudi Arabia and Oman are members of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) born in 1981.

"The GCC was formed as a protective reaction to the Iran-Iraq war. Now it's over, the danger is that the need to co-operate will not be there as strongly," said one GCC official.

A ceasefire came into force between Iraq and Iran in August 1988. During the war the Gulf states - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates - backed Iraq and maintained varying degrees of relations with Iran a few minutes flying time across the Gulf.

But the question of who owns what and where is still a source of potential friction the GCC is anxious to eliminate.

Oman's Sultan Qaboos and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia agreed to define the Saudi-Oman border in December and formally signed the pact on Wednesday.

The GCC is conscious the rest of the world, particularly the West which relies on GCC oil imports to drive its industry, increasingly looks to the Gulf alliance for stability.

"It's a force for stability in the region. The stronger it is politically, the better," said a European Economic Community official at an EEC-GCC ministerial meeting in Muscat on Saturday.

Maggie bashed, Labour happy

LONDON, March 23. (Agencies) British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative suffered a crushing defeat today in a key parliamentary by-election and the victorious opposition Labour Party predicted it would go on to win the next general election.

Triumphant Labour candidate Sylvia Hogg said: "The historic message that will go from this by-election across the Western world will be that the dark age of Thatcherism is drawing to a close."

She told a crowd chanting "Maggie, out" that a 21 per cent swing from Conservative to Labour in the central England seat of Mid-Staffordshire meant people were turning to a reborn Labour Party.

Heal, a social worker, more than doubled the party's vote share to win 49 per cent of the vote and a 9,449-vote majority in Mid-Staffordshire.

The Conservatives' Charles Prior got 33 per cent and the centrist Social and Liberal Democratic Party candidate, lawyer Tim Jones, 11 per cent. The rest of the vote was scattered among the Greens, a splinter centrist party and fringe candidates.

Conservative spokesmen dismissed Labour's victory, its best at a by-election in more than half a century, as a protest vote against unpopular economic policies.

Conservative Party chairman Kenneth Baker said: "This is a bad result - however, the government has had to take difficult decisions over inflation and the economy."

Traditional Conservative grassroots support has been eroded by high interest rates aimed at choking inflation and an unpopular new 'poll tax' to fund local services.

Jack Cunningham, Labour's campaign manager, said: "Labour is on course for a general election victory."

Baker countered: "I have no doubt that we shall recover this seat at the next election."

In the by-election, caused by the suicide last year of Conservative Member of Parliament John Heddle, Labour won 49 per cent of the vote against 32 per cent for the Conservatives. The centre Liberal Democrats came third with 11 per cent.

Labour leader Neil Kinnock called the victory "momentous" and said it marked a turning point for the Conservatives who "are going to have to make up their minds how quickly they get rid of Mrs Thatcher."



Thatcher

Kuwait to quit economic pact

Arab council ineffective

AMMAN, March 23. (Agencies) Kuwait has told the Arab League it plans to quit the 13-member Arab Economic Unity Council (AEUC) set up in 1964 to promote economic union, the council's secretary general Hassan Ibrahim has said.

"At the beginning of this month Kuwait declared to the Arab League its intention to withdraw from the council and it can do so in one year," Ibrahim said.

He said Kuwait had covered nearly one third of the Amman-based council's budget but had failed to pay its dues for the past four years and now owed more than \$1.5 million.

Ibrahim said no reason had been given, but a Kuwaiti diplomat said rifts among Arab nations had made it difficult to achieve its goals.

Three regional economic groupings have emerged since the council was set up - the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), the Arab Maghreb Union and the Arab Co-operation Council comprising Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen.

Their aims to set up more limited common markets have largely supplanted the goal of the broader group.

Kuwait's Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi has confirmed Kuwait will withdraw from the council.

Khorafi said Kuwait had officially notified the League on March 1 that it planned to pull out within a year.

He did not elaborate on the reasons for the Kuwaiti decision, but promised a full statement at a later date.

A Kuwaiti daily indicated that Kuwait was reacting to the failure of other members paying their share of the budget.

"Kuwait has already informed its representatives at the pan-Arab institutions that it will not pay its financial commitments as long as other Arab countries fail to pay their shares, and it served notice it will not approve exemption of any country without prior co-ordination with the (Kuwait) Finance Ministry," the paper said.

Officials in Kuwait said restrictions, rifts and barriers between the council's 13 members made it very difficult to achieve goals like the smooth transfer of funds and workers.

World's biggest brothel for sale

SYDNEY, March 23. (Reuters) The Daily Planet, a Melbourne bawdy house billed as the world's biggest legal brothel, is looking for a new owner.

The air-conditioned brothel has 16 rooms, an indoor swimming pool, marble floors, mirrors and tasteful etchings on some ceilings. Chris Small of Era Ray White commercial estate agency said.

"It's the best brothel in Australia," he said. "It is extremely well fitted-out, extremely clean and extremely well run. The fit-out is better than you would get in a big hotel."



Escape

Warsaw youths escape in panic through narrow streets of Warsaw's old town after riot police charged those who took part in festival celebrating the first day of spring. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

One killed in embassy fire: Fire raged through the Soviet embassy in West Beirut on Friday, killing at least one person and wounding several others, security sources and witnesses said. (Reuters)

Mongolia ends monopoly: Mongolia's Parliament on Friday relinquished the Communist Party's 66-year-old guaranteed monopoly on power and took a small step toward ushering in a new age of democracy. (Reuters)

Lithuania accuses Kremlin: Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis accused the Kremlin on Friday of sending more troops into the rebel Baltic republic. (Reuters) (See Page 4)

Hailstorm kills two: Two people were killed and about 50 injured in a hailstorm in northeastern Bangladesh on Thursday night, local officials said. The storm flattened homes and damaged rice and other crops over an area of 2,500 acres (1,000 hectares), an official at Sylhet town told reporters on Friday. (Reuters)

Sino-Indian border talks: China and India are not ignoring a frontier dispute that has hampered relations since 1962 and will resume talks on the question later this year in New Delhi, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said on Friday. (AP)

Burmese fire: A fire burned down more than 760 houses and left almost 4,000 people homeless in Burma's capital, Rangoon, the Burmese state radio reported. (UPI)

Japan departs 491 Chinese: Japan sent 491 Chinese nationals, some in tears, back to China by boat on Thursday in the largest deportation of Chinese refugees who streamed into Japan during last year's political unrest in China. (UPI)



Farewell

President Sam Nujoma (left) bids farewell to South Africa's last governor of Namibia during a brief departure ceremony at Windhoek airport. (See Page 5) (Reuters wirephoto)

Weather

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with moderate to fresh southeasterly wind with a chance of scattered rain. State of sea: Moderate to rough. High water: 10.30 am, 11.00 pm. Low water: 4.30 pm, 4.12 am. Sunrise: 5.47 am. Sunset: 6.02 pm. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 26°C 79°F. Amman: 19°C 66°F. Adelaide: 22°C 72°F. Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 14°C 57°F. Amman: 17°C 63°F. Adelaide: 16°C 61°F. Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 24°C 75°F. Amman: 19°C 66°F. Adelaide: 21°C 70°F. Minimum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 75 per cent. Amman: 85 per cent. Adelaide: 90 per cent.



Aquino tries on a silver-plated helmet symbolizing her status as commander-in-chief of the Philippine Armed Forces during the 93rd anniversary celebrations of the army in Fort Bonifacio military camp in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

Imelda insincere Aquino rejects offer

MANILA, March 23. (Reuters) Philippine President Corason Aquino yesterday rejected an offer by former first lady Imelda Marcos to hand over part of her late husband's fortune, saying she doubted the proposal was serious or sincere.

"The Filipino people want the money that (former president Ferdinand) Marcos stole returned to them directly, and without onerous conditions," Aquino said in a press statement.

Imelda, on trial in New York on fraud charges, had said in a letter to US President George Bush she would turn over part of her husband's assets to a committee of neutral nations for distribution to the poor of the Philippines.

Imelda said that in return, the body of her husband who died in exile in Hawaii last September should be allowed back into the Philippines for burial.

"I am not convinced of the seriousness nor of the sincerity behind this reported latest proposal of Imelda, coming as it does at the start of the trial in New York," Aquino said.

Philippine officials said Marcos and his associates amassed up to \$10 billion in ill-gotten wealth during his 20-year rule.

The armed forces chief started proceedings Friday for the possible court-martial of a former logistics commander and 59 other officers for the December coup attempt against President Corason Aquino.



Iraq's barrage of verbal attacks against Britain over the execution of Bazzoff spilled into the United Nations yesterday with a statement accusing London of interfering in its affairs and acting like a colonial power.

The Iraqi UN mission, citing principles of international law, said Bazzoff had confessed to carrying out espionage activities for Israel in a written statement which he repeated in front of the British consul in Baghdad.

Iraq cancelled a visit by Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic after Belgrade criticised the execution of Bazzoff.

Crisis as Devi Lal sacks Ajit Singh

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times staff

NEW DELHI, March 23. Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal who is also the chairman of Janata Dal's Central Parliamentary Board sacked Ajit Singh from the secretaryship.

It now appears that the interlocking troubles of the Janata Dal, the main constituent of India's ruling National Front, are far from over.

For the second time in a week, the

Computers

INSIDE Arab Times today a 12-page (13-24) supplement on Computers and Office Automation.

party is once again faced with a crisis, with Devi Lal at its epicentre.

Only last Friday, Devi Lal had abruptly resigned from the union cabinet before withdrawing after three days of hectic political activity in the capital. The 75-year-old Devi Lal was apparently piqued by a feeling of being sidelined by the party's leadership. Even more important, he was irked by some statements made by party secretary-general and industry Minister Ajit Singh against Haryana chief minister and Devi Lal's son Om Prakash Chautala, who has been accused of engineering violence during the recent assembly by-election in Mehru, where he was a candidate of the Janata Dal.

Prime Minister V. P. Singh wrote a long letter to Devi Lal, refusing to accept his resignation and recalling that he was one of the main architects of the party. Devi Lal relented and one thought the party's troubles were over, for the time being, at least.

Ajit Singh, considered by many to be Devi Lal's arch rival, held the post of secretary of his position as secretary-general of the party.

Devi Lal also resigned as chairman of the cabinet sub-committee on the implementation of the Mandal commission's report on the backward classes.

Efforts were on today to defuse the crisis and persuade Devi Lal to revoke his action. But there was no development today and party leaders sought to make light of the whole episode even as some of them admitted that such incidents did affect the party's credibility with the people.

After removing Ajit Singh, Devi Lal appointed Yeshwant Sinha as secretary of the parliamentary board.

Bazoff's body returned

LONDON, March 23. (Reuters) The body of London-based journalist Faraz Bazoff, executed by Iraq on espionage charges last week, was returned to Britain today in a plain wooden coffin.

The body, in a plywood coffin with the name "Bazoff" written in felt pen, was brought to London's Heathrow airport aboard a scheduled Iraqi Airways flight from Baghdad.

A foreign office spokesman said no members of the Iranian-born journalist's family live in Britain and the Observer, which had paid transport costs, was arranging his funeral.

President Saddam Hussein has accused the British government of helping Bazoff, spy for Israel by recruiting him and providing him with British travel documents, the Iraqi media reported yesterday.

Iraq's barrage of verbal attacks against Britain over the execution of Bazoff spilled into the United Nations yesterday with a statement accusing London of interfering in its affairs and acting like a colonial power.

The Iraqi UN mission, citing principles of international law, said Bazoff had confessed to carrying out espionage activities for Israel in a written statement which he repeated in front of the British consul in Baghdad.

Iraq cancelled a visit by Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic after Belgrade criticised the execution of Bazoff.

INTERNATIONAL

Political uncertainty mounts

TOKYO, March 23, (Reuters): A month after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu warned voters an opposition election victory would bring economic instability, Japan's plunging markets have stirred concern about his own abilities.

"The political system is paralysed," said Tokyn University professor Takeshi Sasaki. "Kaifu needs to draw up his own policies but he can't seem to assume leadership."

The political expert warned that "this political bottleneck is affecting the economy and, from an investors' point of view, Japan is no longer secure."

Concern that the government was losing control has spread to ruling and opposition party circles as Japanese currency and stock prices plummeted on Tokyo markets this week.

"We can't seem to shake off a feeling of uncertainty regarding the political future and this is one factor that has contributed to market declines," commented a ruling party member.

Kaifu commands only a small following within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and has been under attack from the party's powerful factions. His standing improved slightly after he led the LDP to a convincing victory in parliamentary elections last month.

Prosecutor objects to Imelda defence

NEW YORK, March 23, (AP): A prosecutor in the fraud trial of Imelda Marcos complained to the judge yesterday that interviews given by her attorney to reporters could jeopardise the government's case.

The fair administration of justice is threatened by defence tactics that run afoul of the criminal rules — as is the government's right to a fair trial," assistant US attorney Debra Livingston said in a letter to judge John F. Keenan.

The interviews the prosecutor referred to were excerpts from an NBC television "Today Show" broadcast on Tuesday and comments made to several newspapers before the trial started.

Livingston gave Keenan the letter during a break in jury selection, now in its third day, and the judge took it under advisement.

The letter said Gerry Spence, one of Mrs Marcos' four attorneys, violated a local rule that prohibits lawyers from commenting on pending criminal cases, except to deny the charges or to quote from documents filed with the court.

Livingston stopped short of requesting a gag order barring any discussion of the case. She asked Keenan to remind defence lawyers of

their responsibility to abide by the rule.

"In this country and in this legal system, one doesn't become a criminal by sleeping with one's husband," Spence was quoted as saying on NBC. "The ghost of Ferdinand Marcos is everywhere, everywhere in this case."

Livingston also cited published reports quoting Spence as saying that US former president Ronald Reagan was a potential defence witness.

Also on trial is Saudi financier Adnan Khashoggi, who is accused of helping the Marcoses conceal a series of New York real estate deals allegedly financed in part with money stolen from the country's treasury.

Khashoggi told a Lebanese newspaper that his links with Marcos were of a business nature only and said the Reagan administration had originally not intended to bargain weapons for it stages in Beirut.

In a lengthy interview with the London-based daily Hayat newspaper, Khashoggi claimed that the US administration has campaigned against him because Washington feared that he would help the ailing Marcos to regain power.

Imelda linked to Filipino coup bid

MANILA, March 23, (Reuters): Doubts and denials today greeted the testimony of a Philippine general who linked an alleged US intelligence agent and former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos to last December's coup attempt in Manila.

The United States embassy denied any US government role in the attempt by army rebels to oust President Corason Aquino, and a Philippine government prosecutor said the American could be a mercenary.

Aquino's spokesman Adolfo Azcuna

said the Philippine government had no reason to disbelieve the embassy's categorical denial.

The United States, which provided air support to help Aquino survive the putsch, said it strongly supported her government.

Former defence minister Juan Ponce Enrile, accused by the government of complicity in the coup in which 112 people died and 600 were wounded, said General Alejandro Galido's allegations were "somewhat incredulous".

But the Philippine Senate yesterday

ordered a probe into his allegation that a US air force colonel working for the defence intelligence agency had offered to sell army rebels anti-tank missiles and other weapons for \$20 million.

The investigation precedes the opening in mid-April of exploratory talks between the United States and the Philippines on the future of American military bases here.

The lease on the bases expires next year. Galido linked a string of opposition figures to the coup plot, including wealthy businessman and former Marcos associate

Eduardo Cojuangco, who returned to the Philippines from the United States last week before the mutiny.

Philippine newspapers and politicians today were sceptical about the revelations of Galido, the former south Luzon commander now in hospital with terminal cancer.

Galido said in an affidavit released to the press by the Justice Department on Wednesday that he had met several times with the leaders of the December coup during 1989.

Girls' quarrel sparks riots in Pakistan

KARACHI, March 23, (Reuters): A fight between teenage schoolgirls led to a gun battle which killed five people and injured 30 in southern Pakistan, police said yesterday.

They said the fight broke out on Wednesday at a high school in Hyderabad between native Sindhi girls and students from Mohajir families who settled in Pakistan from India.

Men from both communities joined in and police opened fire and used tear-gas to control the violence. Two schoolgirls were among the injured.

More than 250 people have been killed in ethnic violence in the past two years in Hyderabad, 175 km (110 miles) east of Pakistan's biggest city Karachi.

Teacher Mohammad Ali goes to his Karachi school every day but is too scared to set foot inside.

Set in crowded Nayaabad, one of the oldest areas of Pakistan's commercial capital, his school and two others have been taken over by gunmen who have turned parts of the city into their personal empires.

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Indians to quit today

5 held for attempting to poison Wijeratne

COLOMBO, March 23, (Reuters): The last Indian soldier will leave Sri Lanka today at the end of a 32-month operation by the Indian Peace Keeping Force, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said yesterday.

He said about 1,000 soldiers, who remained from an original contingent of some 50,000 troops, would leave by ship from the eastern port of Trincomalee.

Two months ago, a rebel plot to ram Wijeratne's car with a van packed with explosives was foiled.

Indian troops were sent to the northeast in July 1987 under a pact between Colombo and New Delhi to end a separatist revolt by Sri Lanka's minority Tamil community.

Wijeratne said relations between Sri Lanka and India, which have soured during the presence of Indian troops on the island, would improve after the withdrawal was completed.

"There will be a qualitative change for the better," he said.

Indian troops started landing in northern Jaffna, heartland of the Tamil community, hours after former Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and India's then prime minister Rajiv Gandhi signed the 1987 accord.

The agreement, designed to give the Tamils power to look after their own affairs in the northeast, was accepted by all Tamil militant groups except the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who fought the Indians.

Nearly 1,200 Indian soldiers died and about 3,000 were wounded in battles with Tiger guerrillas. An estimated 600 rebels and several hundred Tamil civilians were also killed.

"I will see them off tomorrow morning," Wijeratne, who is also deputy defence minister, told a news conference.

Wijeratne also said five suspected leftwing rebels were arrested this week after they tried to poison him with cyanide.

"They tried to shoot me once and failed. Yesterday we caught five fellows who tried to poison me with cyanide," Wijeratne told parliament last night.



Taiwan University student stack sleeping bags after they decided to end their unprecedented six-day protest for more democracy. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lee re-elected, protests end

TAIPEI, March 23, (Reuters): Thousands of Taiwan students on Thursday handed President Lee Teng-hui his first political victory after his re-election by ending an unprecedented six-day protest for democratic reform.

The student protesters, who since Friday had gathered by the thousands in central Taipei's Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Square, ended their demonstration with a spirited celebration after student leaders met Lee on Wednesday night to discuss their demands.

"We are going to give the ruling party some time, and recoup our

strength," said Fan Yun, a student of sociology at National Taiwan University and one of the protest leaders.

The peaceful end to the protest is a triumph both for Lee and for the students, who broke new ground in Taiwan by staging a public demonstration to demand the dissolution of the national assembly.

The 753-member assembly, which is dominated by elderly Nationalist Party veterans frozen in office since the government fled to Taiwan from China in 1949, on Wednesday voted Lee a new six-year term.

In the days before the vote, a hand-

ful of protesters began a hunger strike and news of the demonstration spread like wild-fire, drawing students from all over the island.

On Wednesday, some 6,000 students and an equal number of supporters thronged the square, singing, dancing, and listening to political speeches.

Among their demands, the students asked Lee to return the country to its original constitution by jinking "temporary" provisions which have helped lock the Nationalists' grip on power ever since they were chased to Taiwan by Communist armies in China in 1949.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

CAIRO: Traffic chaos and random use of ear horns has made 62 per cent of Cairoites resort to sedatives, while 33 per cent suffer from hypertension, and noise levels have contributed to a decrease in industrial production by 14 per cent per year, a report published in Wednesday's semi-official Cairo daily Al-Ahram said.

The government-sponsored report said Cairo in some places has exceeded ten-fold noise levels "allowed under international health safety recommendations" (UPI).

BERWYN, Illinois: The critics have spoken. By more than 2-to-1, voters in Berwyn Tuesday called for scrapping "spindles," a 50-foot-tall (15-metre-tall) steel shish kebabs spearheading eight automobiles, and "bill-board," a sculpture made of household appliances and concrete.

In an advisory referendum, folks in the west Chicago suburb said they wanted the junkyard art removed by the owner of the shopping plaza where it is displayed. (AP)

BEVERLY HILLS, California: Daniel Day-Lewis, star of *My Left Foot*, and Isabelle Adjani, star of *Camille Claudel*, were the only nominees for Academy awards in leading roles to show up at a luncheon honoring Oscar nominees on Tuesday.

"This is a pre-awards affair without winners and without losers," said Academy president Karl Malden in greeting the 1,000 guests at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. (AP)



'Signing bonus'

According to a March 22 report the Los Angeles Times, the makers of the top-rated television series, *The Cosby Show*, which stars Bill Cosby (shown above), are asking the NBC network for a \$100 million "signing bonus". The story said that the network is likely to pay such an amount, but the eventual fee is expected to be high enough to wipe out NBC's profits on the show. (Reuters wirephoto).

LONDON: Prince Charles is to write and present a television documentary in which he will make a world-wide plea to save the environment, the British Broadcasting Corp. announced on Thursday.

It will be the second TV documentary made by the heir to the British throne. The BBC has already aired one on British architecture. (AP)

NEW YORK: Arturo Toscanini, considered by many to be the century's greatest conductor, is about to make a comeback in record shops 33 years after his death. (AP)



Finishing touches

Workers put the finishing touches atop a huge tent over the courtyard of the Music Centre March 22, site of the 62nd Academy Awards March 26. The tent which features two, giant Oscar designs, will house this year's post-show Governor's Ball. (Reuters wirephoto).

Escape

Twins dodge

CARDIFF, Wales, March 23, (AP): A convicted burglar escaped from prison after swapping clothes with his twin brother, prison authorities said.

Now, Terry Litton is behind bars, accused of assisting his brother Anthony's escape. Cardiff magistrates refused an application for bail and ordered to appear in court again next week.

The twins — who both have their first names tattooed on their necks — managed to switch clothes Tuesday in a busy visiting area at Cardiff prison.

It was only when a fellow prisoner pointed out the different tattoo that prison officers realized the wrong man was back in the cells.

"It is an embarrassing situation," said prison governor Alan Rawlson.

SYDNEY, Australia: The "Great White Shark" will replace Crocodile Dundee as Australia's front man in television commercials to lure tourists.

The federal tourism task force announced Thursday that professional golfer Greg Norman, who picked up the white shark nickname early in his career due to his light blonde hair and feignous play on the golf course, will replace Paul Hogan, the star of the Crocodile Dundee movies. (AP)

SEVIERVILLE, Tennessee: Dolly Parton plans to buy the radio station where she taped her first songs. She wants to move it to her Dollywood theme park in nearby Pigeon Forge.

The country music queen announced Monday she is buying Wwev-AM and FM, pending federal communications commission approval. No price was disclosed. (AP)

Aspirin keeps strokes away

WASHINGTON, March 23, (Reuters): Both ordinary aspirin and a blood-thinning drug known as warfarin are effective in preventing strokes in patients with a common heart ailment that makes them prone to strokes, a new study published said.

The report concluded that the effectiveness of aspirin, in particular, was "a striking finding of this study."

"The short-term merits of administering aspirin have not been conclusively demonstrated for all patients with this disturbance in cardiac rhythm, but the data strongly favour the use of aspirin in patients 75 or younger," said the report published in this week's New England Journal of Medicine.

The study of 1,244 patients with a heart ailment known as atrial fibrillation was conducted at 19 American medical centres, and was partially funded by the National Institutes of Health.

The ailment is found in an estimated one million Americans and causes over 75,000 cases of stroke per year. Stroke is a condition in which a blood clot blocks the flow of blood through the brain.

The condition occurs when the electrical signal that paces the normal heartbeat becomes chaotic. The upper chambers of the heart flap uselessly, creating stagnant pools of blood that encourage blood clots to form.

Occasionally a clot is pumped out of the heart into the brain, where it lodges in a small blood vessel, cutting off the flow of blood to a part of the brain and killing off the deprived brain cells.

The study of the ability of aspirin and warfarin to prevent this type of stroke began in June 1987.

Patients were given either aspirin, warfarin or a placebo — the equivalent of a sugar pill — in order to compare the effects of the two drugs to the effect of no treatment at all.

In November 1989, the study's safety-monitoring committee recommended ending the placebo portion of the study, concluding it would be unethical to continue to deprive the patients in the placebo group of the drugs being tested.

The researchers said the study would continue, in order to determine whether aspirin or warfarin was the better therapy.

But they said the results to date had already demonstrated that both were "significantly superior" to no treatment at all.

'Escapade' keeps Janet on top of US pops

NEW YORK, March 23, (AP): Janet Jackson and her *Escapade* stayed on for the third week in a row at the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States.

Black Velvet by All'anah Myles soared from tenth to second position on the Cash Box magazine chart, while *Road* by B52 made it week number two in third place.

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) *Escapade* — Janet Jackson (A and M).
2. (10) *Black Velvet* — All'anah Myles (Atlantic).
3. (3) *Road* — B52 (Reprise-Warner Brothers).

4. (4) *The Price of Love* — Bad English (Epic).
5. (31) *I Wish It Would Rain* — Phil Collins (Atlantic).
6. (9) *I Go To Extremes* — Billy Joel (Columbia).

7. (8) *No More Lies* — Michelle (A&O-Ruthless).
8. (7) *Come And Get My Love* — D-Mob (Polydor).
9. (5) *We Can't Go Wrong* — Cover Girls (Capitol).

10. (22) *Just A Friend* — Biz Markie (Cold Chillin'-Warner Brothers).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by cash box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (2) *Hard Rock Bottom* — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).

ers).
2. (4) *No! Counting You* — Garth Brooks (Capitol).

3. (1) *Seein' My Father In Me* — Paul Overstreet (RCA).

4. (8) *Five Minutes* — Lorrie Morgan (RCA).

5. (7) *Here In The Real World* — Alan Jackson (Arista).

6. (6) *Right In The Wrong Direction* — Vern Gosdin (CBS).

7. (15) *Love On Arrival* — Dan Seals (Capitol).

8. (10) *Stranger Things Have Happened* — Ronny Milsap (RCA).

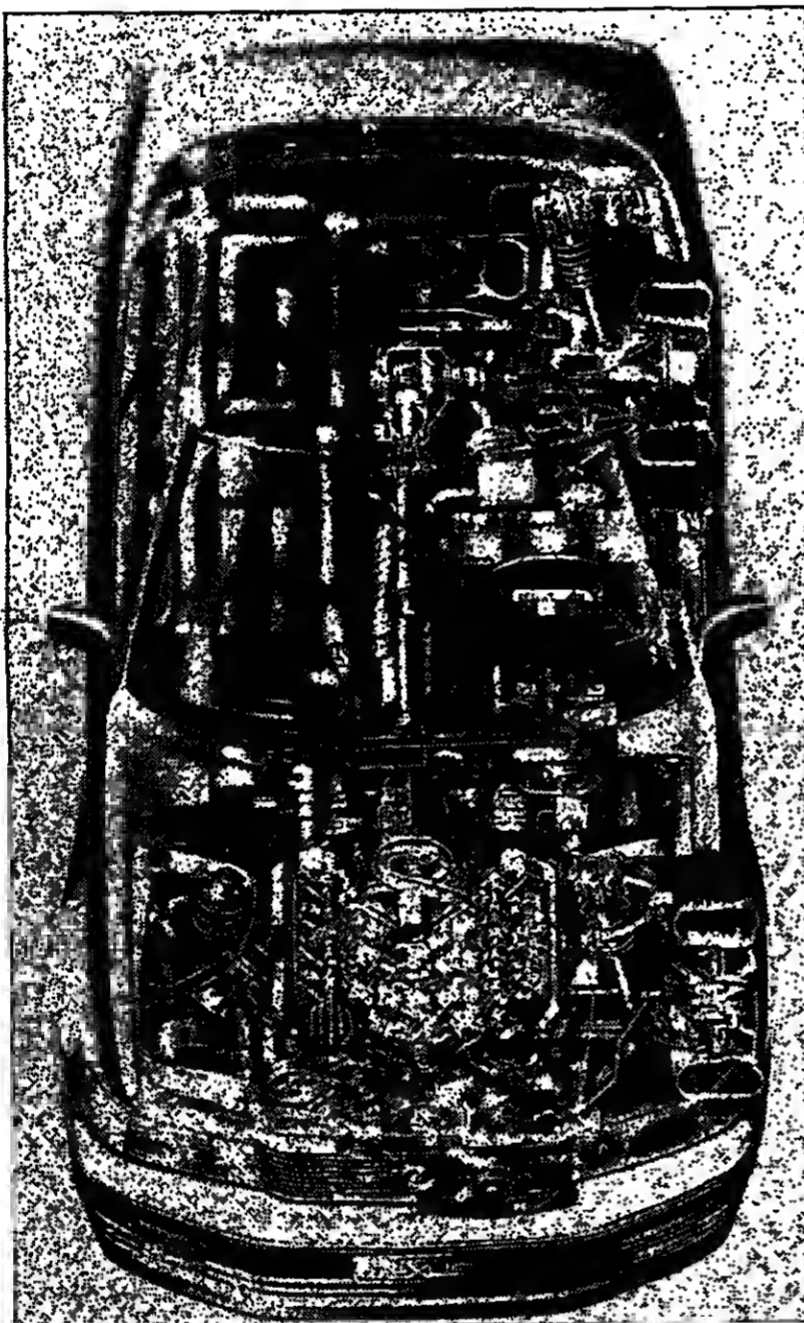
9. (13) *See If I Care* — Shennadoah (Columbia).

10. (12) *Walkin', Talkin', Cryin'* — Highway 101 (Warner Bros).

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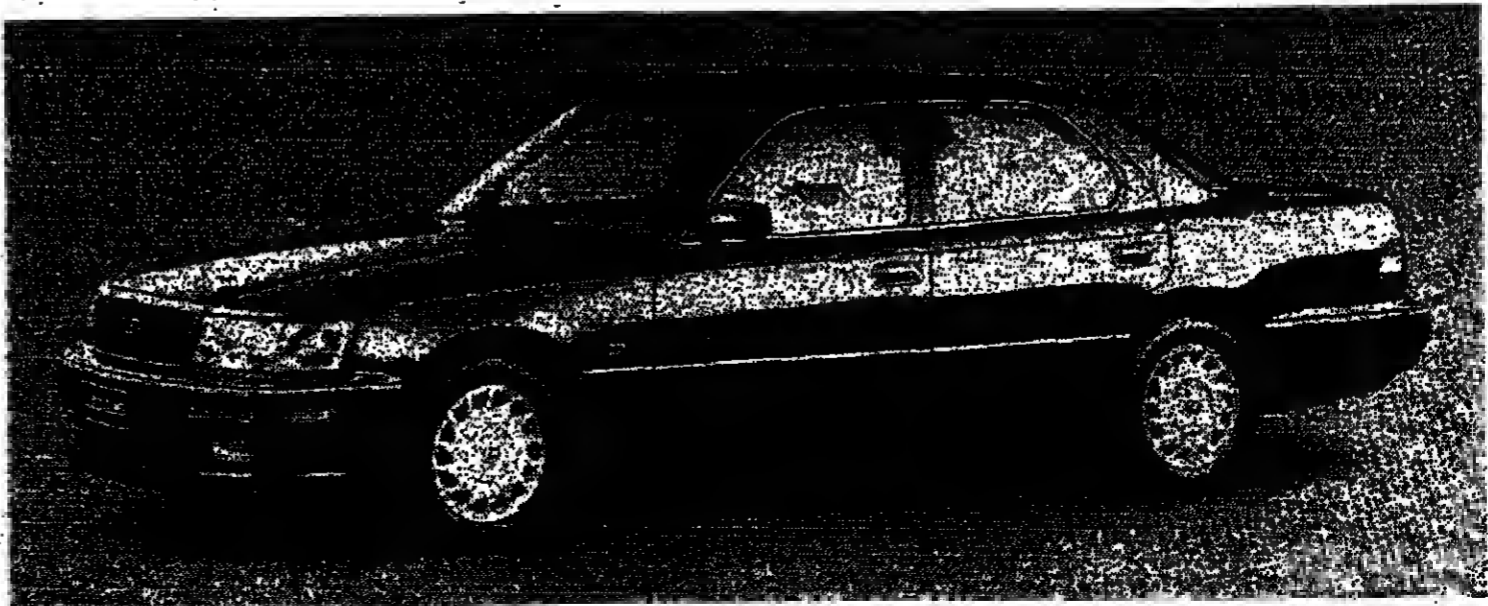
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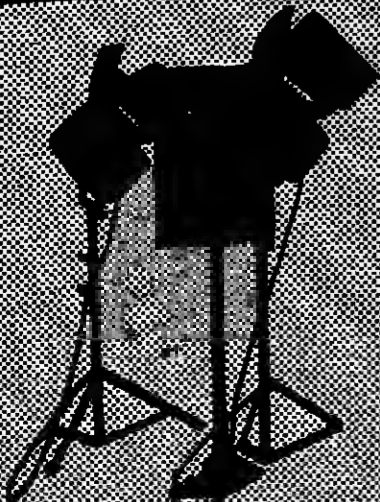
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INTERNATIONAL
Secret links worry Germans

EAST BERLIN, March 23. (AP) East German parties have made progress in talks on forming the country's first non-communist government, but persistent allegations that many new lawmakers were former secret police agents remain.

A top East German church official on Thursday raised the possibility that a probe into possible secret police links could trigger fresh elections.

"I can imagine that such a decision could become necessary as a latest resort," said Manfred Stolpe, chief administrator of the Lutheran Church's East Berlin district.

Stolpe told the Associated Press new elections would be "a very serious blow for the young democracy" in East Germany.

Church officials have asked political parties to approve an investigation of all 400 lawmakers elected in Sunday's halting of the country's first free election.

Lothar de Maiziere, head of the conservative Christian Democratic Union that polled highest in Sunday's elections, is among the newly elected lawmakers linked by media reports to the communist government's secret police, known as the Stasi.

De Maiziere has strongly denied the allegations.

The official supervising the dismantling of the force, Werner Fischer, said there was no proof De Maiziere collaborated with the Stasi.

But Fischer told West Germany's ZDF television he had received allegations against De Maiziere from citizens' groups that had sifted through secret police files in East German cities. Asked whether he took these allegations seriously, Fischer said, "very."

During 40 years of rule, the communists used the Stasi to control all walks of life, and many people were intimidated into collaborating. Until the caretaker government began dissolving it earlier this year, the Stasi had 85,000 agents and hundreds of thousands of informers.

The CDU and its two conservative partners in the Alliance for Germany — Democratic Awakening and German Social Union — scored an overwhelming victory in Sunday's election after promising quick unification and Western prosperity.

But the Conservative Alliance failed to clinch an absolute majority in the parliament and needs a coalition partner.

Conservative officials said they were close to a coalition agreement with an alliance of three liberal parties close to West Germany's Free Democrats, a junior partner in the Bonn government coalition.

Democratic Awakening chairman Rainer Eppelmann said the Conservative and the Liberals were "basically in agreement on a coalition." He said the talks would continue next week.

Eppelmann also renewed a coalition offer to the Social Democrats, who finished as the second strongest party after the CDU in Sunday's ballot.

In Bonn, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has met the Conservative visitors of East Germany's first free elections to steer them down the fast lane to German unity.

The Conservative Alliance leaders, propelled to victory in Sunday's poll with Kohl's help came to Bonn on Wednesday to meet their mentor and consult him on their next moves.

Panama asks Cuban envoy to quit country

PANAMA CITY, Panama, March 23. (AP) The government of Panama yesterday gave Cuba's ambassador five days to leave the country because Havana does not recognise the government of President Guillermo Endara.

Panamanian Minister Julio Linares said he met with Cuban Ambassador Lazaro Mora Secades last morning and handed him a letter of expulsion.

Linares gave reporters a copy of the letter following the meeting.

He told reporters that Mora was given five days to leave because "the Panamanian government wants to show tolerance and prudence and doesn't want to take extreme steps."

Linares said that a country that wants to maintain diplomatic relations with Panama must "treat it with a minimum of respect, with a minimum of consideration," and "must recognise and maintain relations with the government of President Guillermo Endara."

Libya has tonnes of Semtex: Havel

LONDON, March 23. (AP) Czechoslovakia has stopped exporting Semtex, but the previous government sold tonnes of the lethal explosive to Libya, President Vaclav Havel said yesterday.

"The past regime exported 1,000 tonnes to Libya. If you consider that it takes 200 grammes (7 ounces) to blow up an aircraft, this means world terrorism has enough Semtex to last for 150 years," Havel told reporters at a news conference at the Czechoslovak Embassy on the second day of a three-day official visit.

Semtex was used in the bombing of Pan Am flight 103, which exploded in midair in December 1988, killing 259 on board and 11 persons on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland.

"We ceased exporting this explosive some time ago," Havel said, speaking through a translator. He did not give a date or any other details.

The Czechoslovak president and former dissident playwright vowed on Tuesday that his country's venerable arms industry will no longer sell weapons to dictatorial or totalitarian regimes.

"We are studying reconversion of our military industry," he said at a news conference in Paris, where he met with French President Francois Mitterrand, before coming to London. "Don't hold it against us if we continue to furnish arms for a little while to democratic governments."

Czechoslovakia has long been a major arms manufacturer. It produces hand grenades, automatic rifles, tanks and armoured personnel carriers, in addition to explosives.

Published reports say that the export of such weapons and components accounted for between one-quarter and one-half of Czechoslovakia's foreign-exchange earnings. The nation, suffering from a crumbling economy and strapped for hard currency, may find it difficult to stop the trade.

In addition to Libya, clients have included Angola, South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Havel stopped short of saying that Czechoslovakia would no longer manufacture semtex, but defended its production for peaceful use.

Havel left Britain for home today after a visit which included talks on European security, lunch with Queen Elizabeth and a night at the theatre.

Havel, sometimes betraying his shyness during the three-day official visit, was given a warm welcome by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and members of London's artistic elite who had campaigned for his release from prison under the communists.

After talks with Thatcher, Havel said differences of opinion were not as great as he had imagined.

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Havel is greeted by Thatcher at Number 10 Downing Street, March 21. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lithuania in world plea against Soviets

Gorbachev's two-day ultimatum to surrender arms

MOSCOW, March 23. (Agencies) Lithuania's new pro-independence Parliament appealed for world support today and accused the Kremlin of planning force against its drive to secede from the Soviet Union.

An official statement, heightening a war of words between Moscow and Vilnius, expressed fears that Soviet leaders were "preparing to use force against the Lithuanian republic and its citizens."

At the same time in Washington, the US Senate unanimously backed Lithuanian independence and democracy — a day after rejecting a stronger message of support at the urging of President George Bush's advisers.

In Tokyo, the head of the official Soviet news agency Tass said the loss of Lithuania would be as grave a blow to the Soviet Union as the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, but pledged that Moscow would not use arms to resolve the crisis.

The Baltic republic urged other countries to lodge protests to prevent the "possible use of any form of coercion and violence against a peaceful member state of the world community, Lithuania, and its citizens."

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday ordered Lithuanians to surrender their weapons and imposed other restrictions on the Baltic republic, which declared its independence on March 11.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis has dismissed Gorbachev's emergency decrees as "deplorable" and warned they could be "implemented only by brutal armed force."

"If tanks are sent to take away shotguns and hunting rifles, we won't shoot at the tanks," he said. "Our resistance will be non-violence."

The plea for international support was made by Landsbergis at the end of the parliamentary session and renewed in a statement released today by the republic's information office.

It followed Gorbachev's demand that the Lithuanians halt the formation of volunteer units to defend the republic.

In a further move, Tass news agency reported that KGB security troops had reinforced border troops yesterday on Lithuania's international frontier.

Gorbachev, in his first substantial use of new powers as executive president granted him this month, called on Lithuanians to surrender firearms and imposed tougher visa restrictions and border controls.

Members of Lithuania's new pro-independence leadership rejected Gorbachev's decree as the latest stage in a Kremlin campaign aimed at forcing them back into the Soviet fold.

Gorbachev has pressed Lithuania to rescind a declaration by the newly-elected Parliament of a return to its pre-war independence, ended after the Red Army's arrival in 1940.

There was little sign of reconciliation between the two sides today as the Lithuanian Parliament prepared to elect a new government certain to press on with breakaway moves.

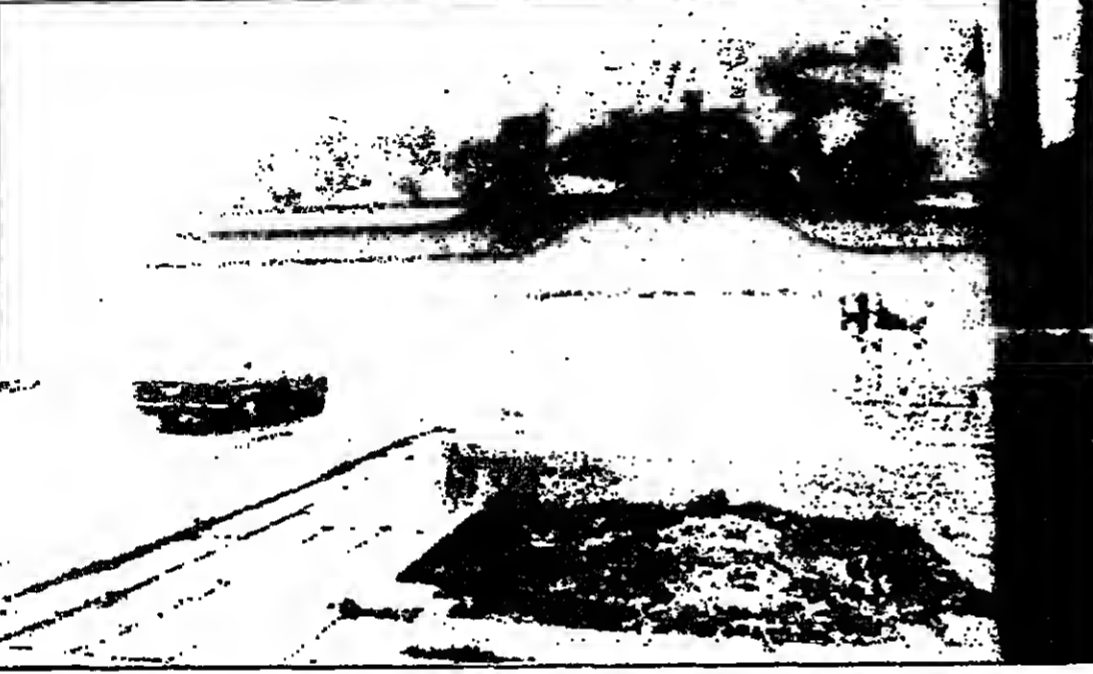
Radical economist Kazimiera Prunskiene has already been appointed prime minister and Algirdas Brazauskas, leader of the republic's Communist Party and a former president, one of her deputies.

In a further sign of Lithuanian defiance, Jonas Vysniauskas, head of a hunting and fishing federation, said on television that his 10,000 members would not comply with a Gorbachev decree to turn in weapons.

Gorbachev told the leaders of rebel Lithuania yesterday to take speedy action to stop formation of volunteer civil defence units and gave them two days to comply with his order.

In a telegram to Lithuanian president, Gorbachev said: "I suggest that undelayed measures be taken to stop all actions at creating these and similar units."

"Please report fulfilment within two days," Gorbachev's telegram, the text of which was published by Tass news agency, said.



The new sign 'Lietuva' installed at the border between Lithuania and Belarusia has replaced Lithuanian SSR which stood there before. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

Ship sinks

JUNEAU, Alaska, March 23. (AP) A fishing vessel capsized and sank yesterday in the frigid Bering Sea, and 10 crew members were missing, the coast guard reported. Twenty-two others were rescued.

The 162-foot (49-metre) Seattle-based Aleutian Enterprise sank within five minutes about 60 miles (96 kilometres) south of the remote Pribilof Islands town of St Paul, said coast guard spokesman Christopher Haley in Juneau.

Bamboo success

NEW YORK, March 23. (AP) A team of scientists has induced bamboo plants to flower in the laboratory, a first for one of the world's most important timber and fodder crops.

The breakthrough promises to pave the way for improved breeding of bamboo stock and provide a perennial source of bamboo seed, said the study, published yesterday in the journal Nature.

Poindexter didn't lie, says Meese

WASHINGTON, March 23. (Reuters) The US attorney-general under former president Ronald Reagan testified yesterday that John Poindexter never lied to him about events stemming from the Iran-Contra scandal and had tried to make the facts of the affair public.

Edwin Meese was the first "live" witness in the criminal trial of Poindexter, Reagan's national security adviser, following nearly eight hours of videotaped testimony from Reagan.

Meese, called as a defence witness, testified that he met with Poindexter and other high-level administration officials on November 20, 1986, as the Iran-Contra scandal was breaking.

"The purpose of the meeting was to make sure the facts were accurately portrayed," Meese said.

He said there had been no attempt to concoct a false cover story about the Reagan-era operation to sell arms to Iran and divert the profits to the Nicaraguan Contras, at a time when Congress had outlawed US aid to the rebels.

But Meese acknowledged under cross-examination that the full story of US involvement in the operation did not come out at that meeting.

Meese's testimony goes to the heart of one of the five charges against Poindexter: the charge that the former navy rear admiral helped put together a false chronology of Iran-Contra events to obstruct Congress in its investigation of the affair.

Laundering bill

WASHINGTON, March 23. (AP) The House Banking Committee has approved plans designed to crack down on banks that allow themselves to be used in the money-laundering operations of drug pushers.

"Money is the vehicle that drives the drug trade," chairman Henry Gonzalez said as the committee approved the bill 48-0.

Fight to the finish

SYDNEY, Australia, March 23. (AP) Prime Minister Bob Hawke, a fanatic sports fan, gives every appearance of relishing a close contest on the playing field. Today, his own race for re-election looks like a fight to the finish.

Polls suggest the two candidates — Hawke and opponent Andrew Peacock — are locked in a tight battle.

Cheney stand

WASHINGTON, March 23. (Reuters) Defence Secretary Dick Cheney launched a scathing attack on Congress on Thursday and defended his stand against rapid, deep US military cuts to complement reduced East-West tensions.

'Irises' sold

LOS ANGELES, March 23. (UPI) Vincent van Gogh's "Irises," sold for an art auction record of nearly \$54 million three years ago, has been resold to the J. Paul Getty Museum for an undisclosed price, it was announced Wednesday.

The purchase by the Getty, the world's wealthiest private museum, brings to three the number of paintings it owns among the 10 most expensive ever sold at auction.

Train held up

DUBLIN, March 23. (Reuters) A suspected IRA gang robbed an Irish rail train last night just hours after the Dublin parliament condemned guerrilla bomb attacks on the Dublin-Belfast rail link.

The 15-man masked gang, armed with machine-guns, pistols and sawn-off shotguns, held up passengers and staff when the train pulled into the little station of Gormstown just north of Dublin.

Pryor ill

BRISBANE, Australia, March 23. (Reuters) American actor and comedian Richard Pryor is recovering in hospital after suffering a mild heart attack during a private visit to Australia, a hospital spokeswoman said today.

Pryor, 49, was admitted to the Wesley Hospital in Brisbane, northern Australia, on Tuesday with chest pains, diagnosed as a minor heart attack.

Quakes hit NZ

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, March 23. (AP) An earthquake measuring 6.7 on the Richter scale rocked parts of New Zealand's north island yesterday, scientists said.

Women bishops

LONDON, March 23. (AP) The issue of women priests will not break up the Anglican church, affirm bishops who are themselves divided over the question.

The most Rev. Robin Eames, Archbishop of Armagh and primate of all Ireland, acknowledged that schism — the splitting of the church — had been considered by the commission on communion and women in the episcopate, which he chairs.

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Czechs abolish

PRAGUE, March 23. (Reuters) The Czechoslovak government voted yesterday to abolish the death penalty.

Cabinet members recommended abolition "by a marked majority" and called on parliament to enact the measure and other changes to the criminal code quickly, government spokesman Zbynek Fiala told a news conference.

Hawke shaping up

Australia's election on Friday is shaping up to be the closest in 30 years, Prime Minister Bob Hawke, in power since 1983, and bidding for a record fourth consecutive term in office, has conceded the two sides neck and neck in the picture Hawke puts his headset on during a radio interview in Melbourne yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Hungary ex-reds facing defeat

BUDAPEST, March 23. (Reuters) The two leading parties in Hungary's free elections tomorrow are neck and neck according to an opinion poll that predicts a big defeat for the ex-communists who tore the first hole in Eastern Europe's iron curtain.

The Independent Median organisation poll gave the liberal, pro-Western Alliance of Free Democrats 21.4 per cent, just half a percentage point ahead of the centre-right Hungarian Democratic Forum with 20.9 per cent.

The rural rightwing Independent Smallholders Party was third on 15.4 per cent.

The survey was made available to Reuters as party leaders prepared for a barn-storming last day of campaigning today before the first round of Hungary's first free national parliamentary elections for more than four decades.

It gave just 10.7 per cent to the ruling Hungarian Socialist Party whose ex-communist reformist leaders engineered the collapse of one-party rule and opened Hungary's border with Austria last year to East Germans fleeing West.

The border decision was widely regarded as a major influence in the "people power" protests that ousted hardline communists and paved the way for free elections in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania.

"We shall not forget ... that Hungary clipped away the first brick from the (Berlin) Wall," West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl told Hungary's MTI news agency in an interview this week.

The Socialist Party, successor to the Communist Party dissolved last October, trailed fifth in the poll behind the radical Federation of Young Democrats (Fidesz) on 11.2 per cent.

State Minister Imre Pozsgay, a prime force in Hungary's return to democracy, called yesterday for a broad-based coalition government including his Socialists to steer Hungary out of economic crisis.

But the four biggest opposition parties have all ruled out joining forces with any party linked to the old regime.

The Alliance, founded by former dissidents, said it would call to account those responsible for injustice under communist rule and scrap high pensions for the party's former elite.

Median, whose poll cannot be published in Hungary under its election law, said that if voter inclinations were indicative the most likely coalition partners after voting on March 25 and April 8 were the Alliance, the Forum and Fidesz.

The Alliance and Forum have both also discreetly courted the smallholders.

But the smallholders appeared in disarray after a barnstorming President Tivadar Pataky accused leading party candidate Jozsef Torgyan of employing Hitlerite rhetoric to drum up support.

Smallholders' leader Vince Vörös also said the party would go into opposition if it could not push through a pledge to return land seized by the communists in the late 1940s.

About 7.7 million Hungarians are eligible to vote in the two-round elections for the 386-member national assembly.

Voting tomorrow closes at 1800 GMT, with earliest results expected late the same day. But a complicated electoral system means only about half the seats are likely to be decided in the first round.

Albanians protest pupils' poisoning

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, March 23. (AP) Police moved yesterday to head off ethnic clashes in Kosovo province, where thousands of ethnic Albanians gathered after reports that teenagers had been poisoned, officials and media reports said.

As Radio Pristina appealed for calm, numerous private cars were reported clogging the road from the town of Podujevo, rushing children to medical centres in Kosovo's capital city Pristina, 32 kms (18 miles) away.

The official Tanjug news agency and a health worker speaking by telephone reported that more than 200 teenagers were hospitalised in Pristina with signs of a mysterious poisoning. Most of the patients were said to be in fair condition.

Symptoms included coughing and smarting eyes, usually ascribed to the effects of tear-gas.

Tear-gas has been used by riot police in the province, where a state of emergency has been in effect for over a year.

Kosovo officials said an announcement about the mysterious illnesses would be made shortly.

Opposition sources claimed "up to 800 or more" ethnic Albanian children were exposed to the poisoning. They alleged that chemicals were sprinkled on the floors of classrooms of ethnic Albanian children in Podujevo and that spray cans were also used.

Kosovo province Premier Jusuf Zinulahu, after visiting

doctors in Pristina, said that none of the hospitalised pupils from Podujevo was in danger. He appealed to people "not to fall for different rumours and provocations linked to this case."

But about 4,000 ethnic Albanian protesters took to the streets in Podujevo, and some of them beat up 15 Serbs and Montenegrins, blaming them for poisoning the classrooms, Radio Belgrade reported.

According to the broadcast, a group of Albanians also stormed the local town council where local officials were meeting in emergency session on the crisis. The demonstrators broke windows and rampaged through offices.

Bashira Berisha, a high school girl of Podujevo, said her classmates had complained about sudden exhaustion, vertigo, nausea, breathing problems and weakness of limbs.

Tanjug said one person was stabbed and taken to hospital after about 4,000 ethnic Albanians marched through Podujevo. They stoned at least one Serbian car and stopped a train by blocking the railway line and molested passengers. They broke into the Communist Party headquarters, breaking windows and going through documents, Tanjug said.

"Around 200 Albanians literally besieged the town police building and an ambulance chanting 'you poisoned our children,'" it said.

Hazelwood acquitted of serious charges

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, March 23. (Reuters) The US captain of the Exxon Valdez supertanker who bore the stigma of the worst ever US oil spill was found not guilty on Thursday of the most serious charge against him and said he wants to return to sea.

"I'd like to go back to sea," Joseph Hazelwood told reporters after the trial. "That's what I do."

He was acquitted of three charges — criminal mischief, operating a water craft while intoxicated and reckless endangerment — and convicted of the relatively minor charge of negligent discharge of oil.

Hazelwood said he was "ambivalent" about Exxon, which sacked him, but wanted to return to work.

One of his lawyers said he would open negotiations with Exxon about possible reinstatement and back pay.

Hazelwood also criticised what he called unfair press accounts which portrayed him as the cause of the ecological disaster.

"I didn't care for the editorialising in the reporting process, the bearded 43-year-old captain said.

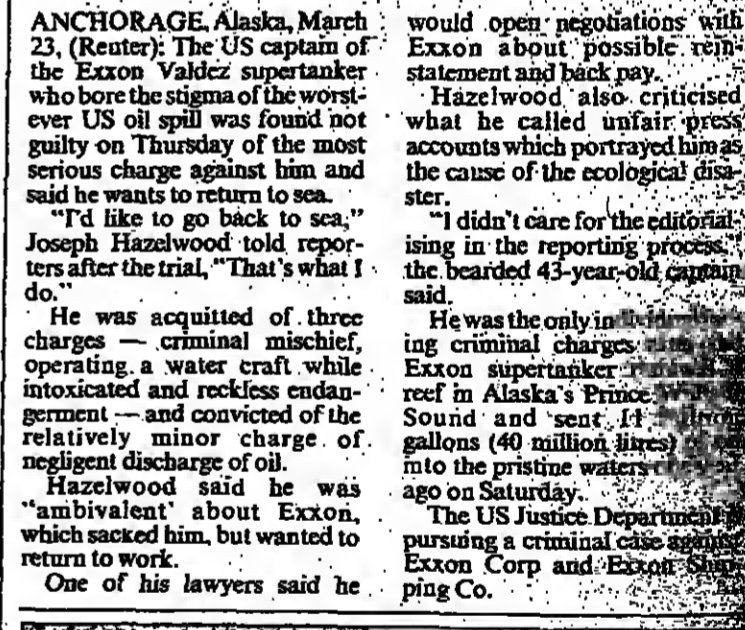
He was the only one in the criminal charges against the Exxon supertanker captain, ref in Alaska's Prince William Sound and sent 11 million gallons (40 million litres) into the pristine waters of the Gulf of Alaska on Saturday.

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Concert



Luciano Pavarotti kisses the hand of the Queen Mother after starting in a gala performance of 'L'aurai d'amore' at the Royal Opera House. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bogota candidate assassinated: nation braces up for renewed violence

BOGOTA, March 23. (AP) Colombia braced itself today for a renewed campaign of violence after the Medellin drug cartel reportedly claimed responsibility for the killing of a leftist presidential candidate.

"Tomorrow we are going to renew terrorist attacks, especially against government and leftist objectives," said a man who called the Caracas radio network yesterday and claimed to represent the cartel.

Earlier yesterday, a youth with a submachine gun killed Bernardo Jaramillo, a candidate of the leftist Patriotic Union Party, as he waited to board a plane at Bogota's El Dorado international airport to begin a vacation with his family.

A police communique said that one police officer was wounded in fighting between security officers and protesters that followed the killing. Unconfirmed reports said that another policeman and a civilian also were injured.

President Virgilio Barco called for national solidarity against "the violent ones" after Jaramillo's death.

Colombia's intelligence police chief, Gen. Miguel Maza Marquez, said the politician's killer was captured and told investigators the hit order came from Medellin drug cartel leader Pablo Escobar.

A communique from the National Security Council said police had intercepted radio communications between Escobar and subordinates implicating Escobar in the killing.

The National Security Council said Escobar contracted Jaramillo's killing for the equivalent in local currency of \$652.

It added that at least three other suspects, all of whom had travelled from the city of Medellin, participated in the attack, the three suspects fled after the assassination, the communique said.

The radio station caller said the next target would be the presidential candidate for the ruling Liberal Party, Cesar Gaviria.

The killing of another Liberal Party candidate last year had touched off a government crackdown on the drug traffickers.

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Apartheid will go, Baker convinced

SOWETO, March 23, (Agencies): Four days after arriving in Africa, US Secretary of State James Baker finally caught a glimpse today of the continent's harsh realities in a brief tour of a squatter settlement.

Baker saw the open sewers, the corrugated iron shacks and rusty outdoor latrines in the shanty town of Mshenguville from the window of his limousine as his motorcade sped through the massive black township of Soweto near Johannesburg.

Johannesburg.

The secretary of state had come in South Africa intent on encouraging the white government to move faster to dismantle the apartheid system.

After meeting President F.W. de Klerk in Cape Town yesterday, Baker said he was convinced the government was committed to abolishing apartheid, under which the black majority of South Africa has been deprived of civil and

political rights for decades.

US officials said Washington no longer believed Pretoria should be diplomatically isolated and would engage its leaders at the highest level.

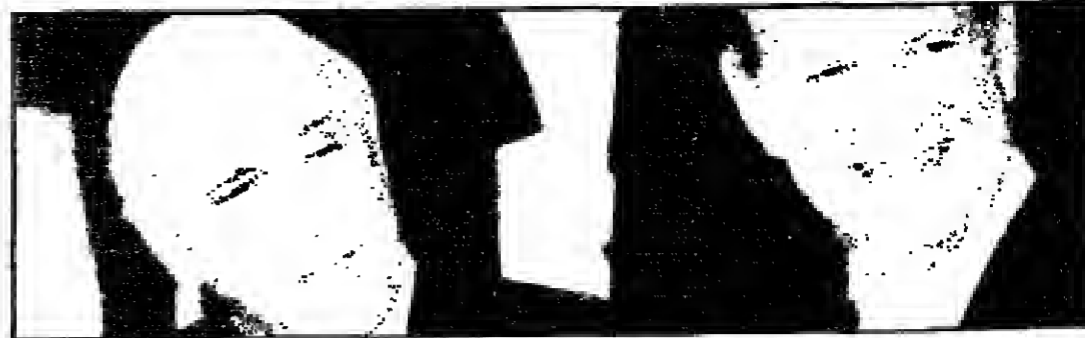
In Soweto, Baker met Walter Sisulu, a close confidant of black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

Baker said after the meeting he was more than

ever convinced apartheid had to go.

Asked how he had reacted to the poverty in Soweto, Baker said: "I think it's quite distressing. I think it's important that the system be abolished as quickly as possible."

The 78-year-old Sisulu, who spent 25 years in jail until his release last year, is now in charge of organising the African National Congress (ANC) in South Africa.



Baker (right) and De Klerk talk to reporters in Cape Town. (Reuters wirephoto)

Farewell to Namibia

South African governor heads home

WINDHOEK, March 23, (Agencies): South Africa's last governor of Namibia headed for home on Thursday, sealing the independence of this vast desert nation by shaking hands with the republic's first head of state, President Sam Nujoma.

Visibly moved and close to tears, administrator-general Louis Pienaar bade farewell to the territory where he has represented Pretoria in its last year of colonial rule.

"You look after this country — otherwise I'll be back," Pienaar told Nujoma as an honour guard of Namibian soldiers stood in attention.

As Pienaar's jet headed for South Africa, Nujoma was applauded by onlookers and airport personnel, their country finally free after a 23-year guerrilla war by his South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

Pienaar's departure from his elegant governor's residence in Windhoek closed the final chapter of South African control over Namibia, which was declared independent at midnight on Tuesday.

The world's newest nation, which became the 160th member of the United Nations, launched a massive street party to mark the end of colonial domination, first from imperial Germany and since 1915 from neighbouring South Africa.

President Sam Nujoma and his cabinet were installed in solemn ceremonies by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, whose peacekeeping forces were instrumental in securing a peaceful transition to independence.

De Cuellar called the world body's largest and most expensive mission a success Thursday, but said newborn Namibia has serious economic problems that require the world's help.

"The political independence was something we all wanted," the UN secretary-general said. "Now we all have to work together for the economic independence of Namibia."

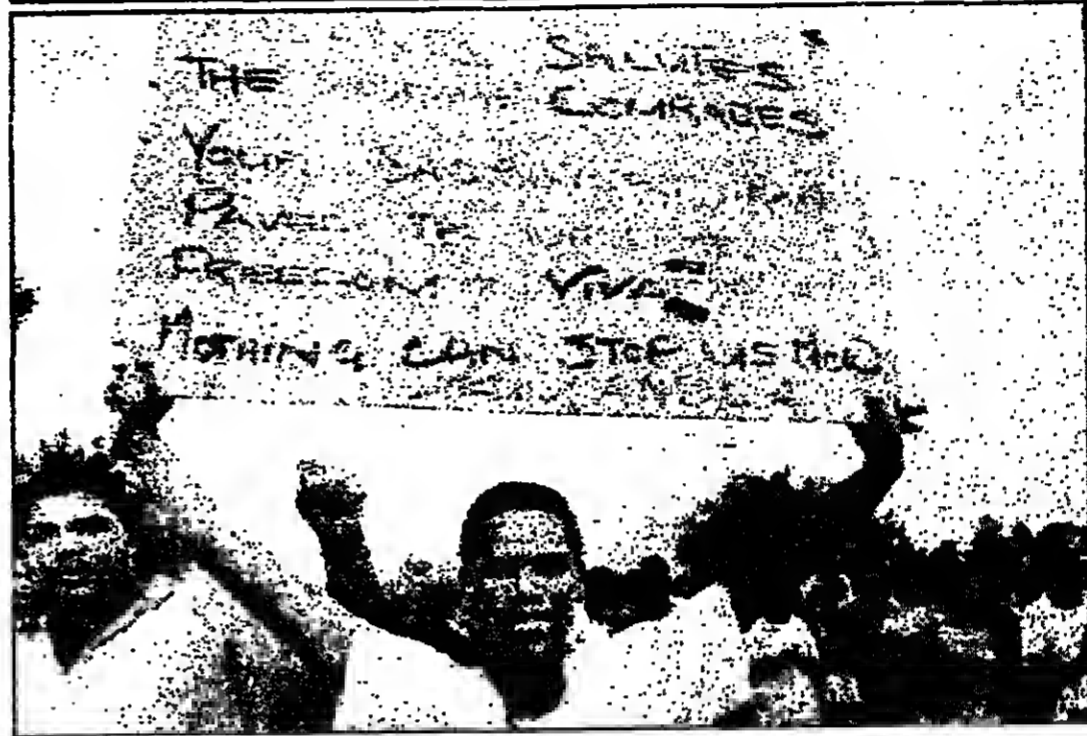
A United Nations donor's conference is scheduled for June to raise money for assistance to the world's newest state.

"The needs of Namibia are enormous," Perez de Cuellar said.

Some Western nations already have promised aid for Namibia. The West Germans have offered \$59 million for development projects and Britain is offering \$10 million pounds (\$16 million). Namibia has an annual per capita income of about \$1,000, one of the highest figures in Africa, but it faces a 500 million rand (\$191 million) budget deficit in its first year.

It has an unemployment rate of more than 30 per cent and the country's wealth is mostly held by the country's whites, who make up only 75,000 of the more than 1.3 million people.

South African President F.W. de Klerk said on Thursday the world now accepted in good faith that his white minority government was committed to change.



Workers and students marched through the industrial area of Atlantis outside Cape Town to commemorate the 30th anniversary Sharpeville massacre when police killed 69 black protesters. (Reuters wirephoto)

White Swapo man was Pretoria agent

20 killed in black violence

JOHANNESBURG, March 23, (AP): Fighting among black factions and clashes between police and black protesters killed at least 20 people and injured 56 throughout South Africa, according to police and media reports yesterday.

Authorities also arrested or fired 109 striking police and prison officers, the police said.

The South African Broadcasting Corp. reported a car crashed through a mob blocking a road in Cape province, killing six people and wounding 34. It gave no details.

There have been reports of white drivers speeding up their cars or firing guns when crowds of blacks attack them on the roads in the recent wave of violence.

Meanwhile, some officials of the African National Congress, the main black opposition group, returned to South Africa on late Wednesday, according to the Independent South African Press Association. Some top exiled leaders would be returning shortly, Sapa said.

Some of the dead in Thursday's report were killed in black factional violence that has claimed more than 300 lives in the past month.

Police did not distinguish the reasons for all of the deaths, but said a 12-year-old boy has been hacked to death in a battle between township residents and migrant workers living in hostels at Ikegong, 100 km (62 miles) southwest of Johannesburg. The hostels and 20 cars were destroyed in a fire that caused 1 million rand (\$380,000) in damage, police said.

The police statement reported widespread unrest during the past 24 hours, with police riot squads using shotguns, rubber bullets and tear-gas to break up mobs of black protesters. Tens of thousands of blacks went on strike Wednesday to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1960 "Sharpeville massacre" in which police killed 69 blacks during a protest march.

A judge investigating alleged military and police death squads said yesterday he had evidence indicating a top white leader of the main Namibian resistance group was a South African agent.

East Europe reforms no victory for West: Mugabe

KADOMA, Zimbabwe, March 23, (Reuters): Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has told Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze that reforms ending old-style communist rule in Eastern Europe did not mean the West had defeated the East.

"At the moment the West feels that they have been victors over the East and people like (British Prime Minister) Mrs Thatcher say so quite loudly. But we have refused to accept that this period of review is necessarily a victory for the West," Mugabe said.

His remarks, reported by Zimbabwe's news agency ZIANA, were made at a breakfast meeting with Shevardnadze in the central town of Kadoma, 120 km (70 miles) from the capital Harare. Mugabe was in the town campaigning for next week's presidential and parliamentary elections in which his own position is being challenged by opposition leader Edgar Tekere.

Shevardnadze, on a 10-day southern African tour, arrived in Zimbabwe, his fourth stop yesterday from neighbouring Mozambique.

He has also visited Angola, Zambia and Namibia, where he attended that country's independence celebrations.

The Soviet foreign minister, on arrival in Harare, told a news conference that Namibia's independence raised prospects of peace in Angola and Mozambique, torn by civil war.

Shevardnadze said yesterday Namibia's independence this week raised prospects of peace in Angola and Mozambique.

44 killed in bus accident

LUSAKA, March 23, (Reuters): At least 44 people were killed and 37 injured yesterday when a bus rolled off a road 170 km (130 miles) east of the Zambian capital Lusaka. The Times of Zambia reported today.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

More Egyptian labour expected in Gulf

Iskander in Kuwait

KUWAIT, March 23. (Kuna): Egyptian State Minister for Immigration and Egyptian Abroad Dr Fouad Iskander expected that the number of Egyptian labour in the Gulf area would increase in the next few years in the light of expanded relations with countries in this region.

Speaking at a press conference here last night, the minister underlined the mission of Egyptians working abroad saying "when constructing streets and buildings and assisting in developmental and commercial ventures, Egyptian labour also

participates in constructing civilisations as they deal with human beings on top of everything else."

Nearly two million Egyptians, from various professions ranging from construction workers to highly trained engineers, consultants and doctors, work in the six states of the Gulf Co-operation Council. Another 650,000 others work in neighbouring Iraq.

Millions of other Egyptians are working in non-Arab countries such as the United

States, Britain, Canada and several Latin American countries.

Iskander, who attended a meeting for Egyptian expatriates in Kuwait last week, discussed the problems of Egyptian brain-drain to the Western countries, saying:

"Our present policy is to bring back these brains who can help Egypt treat existing problems and develop new generations of highly skilled expertise."

He added: "Egyptian expatriates in Europe and America have accomplished an astonishing progress in fields of medical

sciences, technology and computers... there would be plenty for them to do when they return home."

Egypt has set up the "Union for Egyptian Abroad" to be responsible for facilitating their jobs, follow up their living conditions and offering all services to enable them to carry out their duties.

One Egyptian representative working abroad is elected to speak for the rest of the expatriates in that country when the union's general assembly meets in Cairo once a year.

Ramadan on Mar 27

KUWAIT, March 23. (Kuna): The Holy Month of Ramadan this year will begin on Tuesday, March 27, and will wind up on Wednesday April 25, thus completing 30 days, sources at Al Ojairi Observatory at the Science Club said yesterday.

The sources added that the crescent will rise on Sunday, March 25, after the break of dawn and can be seen with the naked eye following the morning prayers, but will not be seen on Monday morning, thus ending month of Shab'ban on its 29th day.

They said that the new moon will be born on Monday at 22:48 local time.

The crescent's opening will be facing the heavens with its bottom facing the earth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amir message

ABU DHABI, March 23. (Kuna): President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan yesterday received a message from His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah on bilateral relations and other issues of mutual concern.

The message was delivered by Amiri Diwan Minister Sheikh Khalid Al Ahmed Al Sabah who arrived here earlier.

Amiri cables

KUWAIT, March 23. (Kuna): HH the Amir today sent a cable of congratulations to the President of Pakistan Ghulam Ishaque Khan on the occasion of his country's National Day.

Congratulations

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah also sent a cable of congratulations to the Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaque Khan on the occasion of his country's National Day.

Sheikh Saad also sent a similar cable to Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto.

Co-op agreement

KUWAIT, March 23. (Kuna): Kuwait's Undersecretary of Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour Issa Yassin and Tunisian Minister for Social Affairs Nabih Gueddana signed a co-operation agreement in social affairs between the two countries.

The signing was attended by Assistant Undersecretary for Social Welfare Latifa Al Rujib and Tunisian Ambassador to Kuwait Habib Kaabachi.

Arab League cable

KUWAIT, March 23. (Kuna): Kuwait cabled congratulations yesterday to the Arab League on the occasion of its 45th anniversary.

The message sent by the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed to the Secretary-General of the Arab League Chadi Klibi expressed good wishes and hopes that the League would realise the goals of the Arab nation.

Sheikh Sabah described the Arab League as a great edifice which has safeguarded Arab unity and solidarity throughout challenging circumstances.



Beausoleil at the American embassy Thursday night.

Kuwait gets a taste of Cajun

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

BEAUSOLEIL, dubbed as Louisiana's leading ambassador of Cajun music, brought a new sound to Kuwait Thursday when they breezed through a medley of ballads, minor key waltzes and barroom two-step songs.

Or was it blues, reels and country music? In fact it was all of that, and more. Eager to preserve the traditional Cajun music that has its roots, as its people, in France and inspired by New Orleans jazz, rock, southern boogie and European folk the band led by fiddler Michael Doucet produces an exciting and refreshing sound that makes it hard for a listener to keep still.

Interspersing the rollicking numbers were Doucet's remarks that showed Cajuns, often stereotyped as obscure and weird people, as a fun-loving ethnic entity with its own culture, brand of French language and sense of humour.

Consider this as an example of the latter. A man first rejected, then wanted by his sweetheart travels from Louisiana to Texas and back and in the process loses his horse. In the end he loses his sweetheart too and heartbroken sings a song — about his horse.

Then there was a song about coffee, black or with milk or hot or iced, you name it. Whatever the coffee, the song surely was good.

Dedication

But my favourite were the songs paying tribute to the group's musician friends Dennis McGee, who died a few years ago at 95, and jazzman Bunk Johnson. Fiddler McGee, who despite his name never spoke a word of English, played traditional

Cajun music to his last day, said Doucet.

The number dedicated to him, fast and lively, was contrasted by Bunk's Blues which, those who know more about music say, sounds like early 20th century New Orleans. To me it was a delightful piece with the violin beautifully substituting for the wind instruments. Doucet's fiddle surely can wail, and wail sweetly.

With the concert at the American ambassador's residence in Kuwait, Beausoleil, from Lafayette, Louisiana, ended their first Middle Eastern tour that also took them to North Yemen, the UAE and Saudi Arabia. Doucet was accompanied by his brother David (acoustic guitar), Jimmy Breaux (accordion), Tommy Comeaux (banjo), Billy Ware (percussions and washboard) and Tommy Alesi (drums).

The group found that Louisiana and the Gulf share more than just hot and steamy climate and oil wells. The Cajuns, in common with Arabs, are proud of their origin and are intent on preserving their heritage.

They are the descendants of French exiles from Acadia (today Nova Scotia) who fled to Louisiana after the British seized control of the area in the early 19th century. The Acadians brought to the bayous, the swampy area no one wanted to live in, traditional French music that has been passed down through generations. But as Beausoleil, named after an Acadian resistance leader, showed their music has been heavily influenced by jazz, rock and even Afro and Caribbean beat.

Beausoleil played their diverse music to an even more diverse audience in the Gulf. It is to their credit that the encounter was a pleasing experience for both, the band and the listeners.

Kuwait envoy to address ME conference

HONOLULU, March 23, (Kuna):

Kuwait's Ambassador to the United States, Sheikh Saud Naser Al Sabah will address today a group of foreign affairs experts who are gathered here to attend a conference on the Middle East organised by the Washington based American Arab Affairs Council in collaboration with the University of Hawaii.

The conference is the first of its kind to address the Middle East peace process and political and economic opportunities for the US, the Arab world, and Japan. A number of Japanese officials are attending the two-day conference.

The Kuwaiti ambassador is expected to discuss, among other things, the latest developments in the peace process from an Arab point of view.

Austrians keen to maintain Arab ties

VIENNA, March 23, (Kuna):

Head of the Arab diplomatic corps and Kuwaiti Ambassador in Vienna Abdul Hamid Al Awadi has expressed satisfaction over the explanation given by Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock regarding his country's stance toward current Arab issues, particularly Iraq's recent execution of an Iranian-born journalist.

Al Awadi told Kuna that Mock had said, during a meeting with Arab ambassadors yesterday, that his country is keen to maintain good ties with Arab states and had hoped that such "passing events" would not damage these relations.

Mock was referring the British anti-Baghdad media campaign, which was backed by some Austrian media and official circles, in

a reaction to Iraq's execution of Farzad Bazoft, a London-based journalist who was found guilty of espionage for Israel.

Assurance

Awadi noted that his fellow Arab ambassadors had conveyed their countries' dissatisfaction with Austria's announcement to grant Israel reparations and assistance, "which might be used to settle Soviet Jews in the occupied territories and to banish what is left of the Palestinian people."

The Kuwaiti ambassador said that Mock had assured him that Vienna is totally against the settling of Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab territories.

The Arab ambassadors and the Austrian foreign minister also discussed the Iraq-Iran conflict and the Lebanese problem.

Soviets assure Arabs of friendship

KUWAIT, March 23. (AP): A prominent Soviet official said in an interview published today that the Kremlin's new policies would not jilt the Arabs, but said Soviet-Arab relations were entering a new era based on common interests rather than confronting a common enemy.

Georgy Arbatov, a member of the central committee of the Communist Party and director of the United States and Canada Institute, made the remarks in an interview with an Arabic Kuwaiti daily.

"I hereby declare we did not conclude any deal with the west at the expense of anybody," said Arbatov who was described by the paper's Moscow correspondent as "a key aide to Gorbachev."

Arbatov was responding to a question about Arab concerns, especially Moscow easing Soviet Jewish emigration. Arabs fear a Soviet Jew influx will make a solution to the Palestinian problem more difficult if they supplant Palestinians in their designated homeland in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Interests

"The Soviet-Arab relations are now based on a new concept which is not the existence of the common enemy but the recognition of common interests in bilateral relations and international relations in general."

Arbatov is expected in Kuwait this weekend, and said his visit would be his first to a Middle East country. He anticipated that his talks in Kuwait "will help strengthen relations between the two friendly countries."

Kuwait was the first of the conservative Arab states of the oil-rich Gulf to foster ties with Moscow.

Discussing the recent rapprochement with the United States with relation to the Middle East crisis, he said: "As you know the situation in the Middle East, because of the bloody nature of the conflict there, has been for a long time a potential source of an international nuclear catastrophe."

"This is also because the region is a vital one from an economic and strategic viewpoint and because of its proximity to our borders. Any mistake could have triggered a world catastrophe."

Arbatov said the Soviet Union wanted a comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis, including the return of occupied Arab territories and an independent Palestinian state.

Changes in PIA schedule

IN VIEW of public convenience PIA is pleased to announce change of their flight schedule effective Sunday, March 25, 1990. In the new schedule, flights will arrive and depart from Kuwait at earlier times as per details hereunder.

Tue/Wednesday PK 213 ARR KWI 2330 PK 214 DEP 0055/Wed ARR (KHI) 0555 LT

Wednesday PK 235 ARR KWI 2200 PK 236 DEP 2320/Thu ARR (KHI) 0420 LT

Thursday PK 215 ARR KWI 2100 PK 216 DEP 2220/Fri ARR (KHI) 0320 LT

Sunday PK 215 ARR KWI 1930 PK 216 DEP 2045/Mon ARR (KHI) 0145 LT

The schedule will provide early morning connections ex-Karachi for other cities in Pakistan and to India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, China and Japan which has been a long standing demand of the travelling public.

PIA has requested the passengers who are already holding confirmed bookings on PIA flights to contact the booking office or concerned travel agent to have their seats re-confirmed.

Kuwaitis urged to join private sector

State spends KD6.5 m on training

THE Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed stressed on the importance to change the existing combination of manpower and the necessity to have close co-operation between the public and private sectors to increase the number of Kuwaiti workers.

Speaking at a meeting with the teaching staff of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet), Rashed called for urgent training of specialised national cadres and to enlighten the public about the importance of undertaking scientific disciplines. He also called for encouraging graduates of technical institutes by allocating workshops for them and also called for encouraging technical and professional education and provide incentives to small industries.

Rashed stressed on the importance of developing manpower and commented that this is a long-term involvement which involves comprehensive development. He stressed that the development of national manpower aims at improving the performance of national cadres specially because the Kuwaiti population is a small one.

The five-year-plan of the state includes aims for different sectors of the state to guide the usage of manpower and give more concern to the educational and training systems for national manpower to meet future needs. The policies of the plan included the work to develop the efficiency of educational and training system and to achieve a balance between output and needs of development, the official said.

The official said that Paaet should take into consideration the requirements and needs of all sectors by developing its educational programmes to guide its students to join the majors that are needed by the local sectors. However, the official appreciated the extent of co-operation extended by Paaet in providing the local market with technical and qualified cadres.

He added that the Civil Service Commission is undertaking studies to attract national manpower to work in the private sector and added that the Civil Service Commission is still keeping active applications of 179 Kuwaitis who have yet to be appointed. Of these, 89 are graduates and 90 hold diplomas, the official said.

Training

The public sector will offer training courses to 7,440 Kuwaiti public servants the short term plan of developing the administrative staff that began in 1.11.1989 and end on 30.6.1990. By then, the number of Kuwaiti servants who have been provided training courses will increase to 13 per cent of total Kuwaiti manpower. The state organised training programmes for 1,304 public servants from 16 ministries and government establishments and the state spent about KD6.5 million on training courses and KD3.5 million on scholarships, the official said.

Speaking on the methodologies employed by the state for developing national manpower, the official said that it links outputs of education with needs



Rashed Al Rashed

of the state for national manpower, obliges Kuwaiti graduates who get certain qualifications to work in their majors, offers allowances for Kuwaitis who work in certain places and give exceptional grades to graduates of the faculties and institutes of Paaet.

Rashed disclosed that the Civil Service Council decided to grant an allowance of KD35 a month to Kuwaitis who work in certain handicrafts if they are appointed in the 8th grade and KD175 a month if they are appointed in the grade A of the public scale. He hoped that these allowances will encourage Kuwaiti youths to join the technical institutes and training centres.

Population

In 1989, the population of Kuwait totalled about 2,141,350 individuals, including 550,181 Kuwaitis (27.3 per cent of the total population) and 1,463,954 expatriates (72.7 per cent). The total workforce at both public and private sectors totalled 853,955 workers (42.4 per cent of total population) 661,339 are males (77.4 per cent) and 192,616 females (22.6 per cent). Headed that the workforce totalled 115,928 individuals (13.6 per cent of the total workforce in the country) 80,969 are males and 34,959 are females. The non-Kuwaiti workforce totals 738,027 (86.4 per cent of total manpower) 580,370 males and 157,657 females.

About 260,617 employees work in the government sector forming 30.5 per cent; 107,499 are Kuwaitis (41.2 per cent) and 153,118 are non-Kuwaitis (58.8 per cent). Kuwaiti manpower at government sector increased from 37.3 per cent in 1984 to 44.5 per cent in 1989. A total of 69.5 per cent of the workforce in Kuwait work at the private sector and only 1.4 per cent are Kuwaitis. The government sector is the main employer of Kuwaiti manpower accounting for about 92.7 per cent — against 7.3 per cent working in the private sector. Only 20.7 per cent of expatriate manpower work in the government sector and 79.3 per cent in the private sector, the official said.

Rashed said that over half of Kuwaiti employees hold secondary school certificates or higher qualifications. He added that 20,988 Kuwaitis hold diplomas, 21,052 university degrees and 2,521 higher degrees (Masters and Doctorates).

The state has included a programme to change the combination of manpower during the

five-year-plan in the programme of developing administrative staff and the Civil Service Commission is co-operating with the Ministry of Planning in following up the ministries and government establishments on the preparation of their programmes in this field.

Appointments

Further the establishment of an office to prepare and qualify youths and to plan for manpower at the CSC aims at developing the performance and efficiency of national manpower. The office offers an information system about youths who search for jobs at government and private sectors.

Rashed disclosed that 17,486 Kuwaiti nationals holding different scientific qualifications were appointed in the government sector between 16.7.1989 and 12.2.1990. He added that 7,587 were appointed in sectors that are subject to the Civil Service Law and 4,036 had their titles changed after getting higher scientific qualifications or training courses. He added that over 5,563 Kuwaitis were appointed in government establishments or places that are not subjected to the control of the Civil Service Commission.

The minister disclosed that the state will allocate about KD8 billion on the first chapter of the state budget (payments and wages) in the budget of the next five years (90/95). The state also allocated KD750 million for the 4th chapter of the state budget of the present fiscal year 89/90 and this chapter is specialised for construction projects of the state.

Rashed also stressed the significance of training as an effective factor to upgrade the standard of services rendered to the public.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the first orientation course of newly-enrolled employees Rashed disclosed that the government has spent about KD6.5 million on training and KD3 million on scholarships.

He said there was remarkable increase in changes for training offered through programmes carried out by various governmental bodies over past years.

Rashed said training and education are complementary factors for raising the competence and level of performance of civil servants, indicating that training was basically intended to create sentiment and trends among employees to serve the objectives of the administration.

Training should place special emphasis on the value of work and acquaint new employees with a new philosophy and methods to handle their duties. Rashed said, noting that such a task was not an easy one.

Director of the course, Abdul Mohsen Al Jassar said the orientation programme, which was sponsored by the human resources development centre at the Employees Diwan, signalled the beginning of such training programmes which will continue in the future.

The Undersecretary of the Employees Diwan, Abdul Aziz Al Zaben banded the participants certificates for attending the course at the end of the ceremony.



Charity Bazaar

Hundreds of pieces of ceramics, dried flower arrangements, children's books and clothes are on display at the Fifth Charity Bazaar organised by Bayader Al Salam Women's Society.

The bazaar which opened Tuesday will continue until March 26 at the Society for Medical Professions in Jabriya. Sheikh Nasser Mohamed Al Ahmed Al Sabah, minister of social affairs and labour, opened the luncheon which was attended by Dr Anwar Al Nouri, minister of education and Dr Nabih Kadana, the Tunisian minister of social affairs.

In a welcoming address, Dalia Al Othman, head of

Bayader Al Salam, thanked the Society for Medical Professions for their hospitality, and all the ministries, companies and individuals who made the bazaar possible.

Bayader Al Salam girls performed a number of dances and parts of "The King and the Beautiful Seven", an educational play that will be shown during the upcoming Children's Festival, also organised by the society.

The bazaar is open 10 am to 12 noon, and 5:00 to 7:30 pm. DAH

Saudi Arabia, Oman sign border pact

RIYADH, March 23. (AP): The rulers of Saudi Arabia and Oman Wednesday signed an agreement demarcating their common border, which had remained officially undefined since colonial times.

An official announcement in Riyadh and Muscat said King Fahd and Sultan Qaboos laid their signatures to the accord at 4.10 pm (13.10 GMT) on the basis of the "Declared Line," that is, the border already roughly existed.

It said annexes to the agreement, signed by the interior minister of the kingdom and the sultanate, defined pasture areas and organised traffic points along the 380-mile (610-kilometre) border.

The announcement said the pact would insure: "A basis of equality and mutual interest and the guaranteeing of the rights of sovereignty for each of the two sisterly states."

The national news agencies of the two countries quoted the two rulers as describing the event as "a historic day", and stressing "historically brotherly ties" between the two nations.

King Fahd additionally paid tribute to the development of ties with Oman in the two decades of Qaboos' rule.

The event took place at the Northeastern town of Hafir Al Baten, where Qaboos arrived Tuesday for the purpose of finalising the border accord and for talks with Fahd on a range of issues.

Qaboos is the current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council in which Saudi Arabia is the dominant party. The others are

Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Hafir Al Baten is headquarters for the fledgling rapid deployment force that the GCC countries are developing, to be rushed to the help of any member country facing a foreign threat.

Diplomatic circles contend that membership of the GCC, as well as stable ties with the Saudi Kingdom, is useful for Oman in face of the developing merger between the two Yemens on its southwestern flank.

South Yemen, an avowedly Marxist state since independence in 1967, used to foster leftist-leaning rebels in Oman's Dhofar rebellion. It is merging with the pro-Western North Yemen, with a deadline of Nov 30 for the process.

Saudi Arabia has been leading the efforts of the conservative Arab states of the Arabian Peninsula, including Oman, to encourage the merger and wean Aden from Marxism.

South Yemen, which has been closely linked militarily and economically with the Soviet Union, has opened up considerably to its conservative neighbours and to the West in recent times in line with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's policies.

Diplomatic sources said that relations with the Yemens were a key issue in the deliberations between Qaboos and Fahd.

Other prominent issues on the table were relations with Iran and the Arab-Israeli peacemaking process, said the sources, who spoke on condition they not be named.

Kuwait lauds Namibian struggle for independence

Sabah returns from Windhoek

KUWAIT, March 23, (Kuna): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and the accompanying delegation returned home from Windhoek this evening after attending celebrations marking the independence of Namibia.

Arriving on the same plane with Sheikh Sabah was Iraqi Social Affairs and Labour Minister Dr Omeed Medhat Mubarak who stopped for a brief visit to Kuwait.

Sheikh Sabah and Dr Omeed were greeted at the airport by Kuwait Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed, Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majid Al Shaheen, Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait Assem

Yaqoub and a number of senior officials at the Foreign and Social Affairs and Labour ministries.

In a statement to Kuna, Sheikh Sabah said he represented HH the Amir at the celebrations of independence of Namibia, and conveyed the congratulations of HH the Amir, the government and people of Kuwait to the Namibian President Sam Nujoma, his government and people on his historic event which crowded their protracted struggle with freedom and independence.

Sheikh Sabah paid tribute to the Namibian people's long confrontation against occupation and apartheid, saying

that the march of the Namibian people which now produced its fruits has derived broad international support.

He noted that Kuwait has played an outstanding role in supporting the Namibian people's fight for independence a matter which has been appreciated by President Sam Nujoma on many occasions.

Sheikh Sabah stated that the recent visit to Kuwait by President Nujoma and the audiences granted to him by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah represented the latest expression of gratitude for this support which stemmed from Kuwait's belief in the just struggle of

the Namibian people who demolished the last strong-hold of colonialism and occupation in Africa.

The deputy premier and foreign minister said, during his stay in Windhoek, he relayed a message from HH the Amir to President Nujoma and discussed with the Namibian leader means of promoting bilateral relations "so as to work together for world peace and security."

He said the Namibian President expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to HH the Amir, the government and people of Kuwait for the backing they extended to the Namibian people throughout their struggle for freedom and independence.

Sluggish markets due to lower oil revenues: Tammar

Average individual income KD3600pa

By Lima Al Khafawi
Arab Times staff

THE last decade witnessed two attempts in activating the Kuwaiti economy by two committees formed in 1984 and 1989 respectively and the latter known as the Economic Reactivation Committee in general is in agreement with the concepts concluded by the former which attributed the sluggishness of the Kuwaiti economy during that period to the retreat in the revenue of the non-oil sectors.

Speaking at a lecture held at the Kuwait Business College on the theme of "The Kuwaiti Economy Reactivation Story", Abdul Wahab Al Tammar, ex-governor of Kuwait's Central Bank and head of Al Tammar for Economic Consultancy, said that the first economic committee of 1984 determined that the 1983-84 economic activities were an obvious and corrective operation for the economy to stabilise at a natural level. The expansion in every direction without any actual basis was at its peak during 1982-83, the official said. He added that the 1989 committee had called for upgrading the performance of the non-oil sectors and surmounting obstacles impeding this goal. This concept does not contradict with the 1984/85 committee's suggestion as both view the recommendations as being tailored to enhance the potentials of the non-oil sectors.

The official went on to state that the committees believe that the government's opinion should be clear and precise and that this opinion should be announced to

the public through an Amiri speech or government programme through its financial policy and state budget.

Tammar added that the general view of the 1989 committee was based on the recommendations of the 1984-85 economic committee.

The 1989 committee report revealed that the Kuwaiti economy was able to attain a high level of stability and adaptability in relation to the local and outside economic scenario, which had contributed to some progress in the last three years. Tammar said that the process of handling the activation of the economy was the first difference between the two committees in the short term, but both committees agreed on the methodologies and policies that reflect the state's economic policies in the long run.

Speaking of the debts problem, the official said that the 1984 committee recommended that debtors should submit all their assets to be at the disposal of the committee. However, the 1989 committee was striving to develop this programme with special emphasis on alleviating the administrative burdens of the commercial banks and had eventually called for a prompt settlement of this problem — particularly for debts aggregating less than KD250,000 and this has opened the door for the prompt settlement of debts over KD250,000 in accordance with criteria set up by the Central Bank.

In a further move designed to strengthen the economy, the 1989 economic reactivation

committee has called for the reactivation of mortgaged assets in order to develop the incentives of the settlement programmes, in addition to encouraging commercial banks to purchase debts and provide new banking facilities to customers whose debts had been settled. In this respect, the official said that commercial banks would be provided adequate support.

Tammar said that the 1989 committee had concentrated on handling the real estate and stock market problems, and had recommended enhancing the value of shares. He added: "The ultimate effect of the new programme for activation of the economy translates into preserving an economical balance at the needed level or at an accepted margin."

Speaking of the country's economic co-ordination to keep abreast with an identical effort exerted in other countries, Tammar said that the individual average income of the Kuwaiti citizen is KD3,600 per annum and this matches with the individual income in advanced industrial countries and in some instances far exceeded those of affluent countries. He commented that the consumption pattern is a direct reflection of the high incomes enjoyed in Kuwait. Thus he said: "Activation is not needed to raise the level of living but to create new work opportunities in a country where 75 per cent of its work force are expatriates". He added that any difficulties that local workers might encounter are not related to work opportunities, but to the quality of the work force.

Action Line

I HAD brought my mother-in-law to Kuwait on a visit visa in October. I know visit visas are issued for a month only. But many friends invited their relatives here for a month and then after the visitor arrived, they applied for a new visa and they managed to get one. Such visitors went to Iraq and returned on the new visa and stayed from three to six months. So, I also tried the same way. I tried to get her a fresh visa after 20 days of her arrival. But the visa was rejected saying the person is already in Kuwait and her name is on the computer and the visa could not be issued. Then, I sent her to Iraq and she stayed there for 10 days while I applied for a new visit visa. It was once again rejected without any reason. During the same period, a friend managed to get a second visa for his visitor, who was already in Kuwait. I would like to clarify that I had all the documents necessary for the visit visa. If I did not have them, the visa would have been rejected the first time.

Do you think the name of my friend's visitor was not on the computer? How did she get a second visa while she was still in Kuwait and had not completed her first visit?

2. Does the issuance of a visa depend on the mood of the officer?
3. What exactly are the requirements for a visit visa? And why do the authorities agree to give some applicants a visa for more than one time and reject the application of others?

M. D'Souza

YOUR query was addressed to the Legal Clinic, and, frankly, this is not a legal problem, so we are printing your question and the answer in this column. First of all, the immigration authorities have clearly stated several times that they reserve the right to accept or reject an application, and they also reserve the right to withhold the reason for doing so. It is their prerogative. Whether a visa is granted or not is a procedural matter and depends on the merits of each case; in certain situations a visa can be granted, in certain others it cannot be given and the officials have been given discretionary rights, which they are authorised to use.

I HAVE been working in a ministry for the last seven and a half years. As a matter of fact, I am under employed and not working according to my qualifications. I am an engineer, employed as a typist. Please tell me how to change my job.

Z.M. Ali

YOU knowingly accepted the job as a typist several years ago, and it would be difficult to change the job within that organisation because of your present service record. If you were a qualified engineer, why did you opt to work as a typist and imposed under-employment on yourself. Your query was addressed to the Legal Clinic, and your problem is in no way a legal clarification. If you are not happy with your present position, and cannot continue to work, you can resign and look for another job.

I AM a Sri Lankan, working in Kuwait as a domestic driver. Last month, while I was driving near Fahalhel, the police caught me and took my driving licence and the car registration book. They gave me a yellow paper saying I have violated the traffic law by driving on the "wrong side." Could you please explain what I should do with the yellow paper and what action will be taken against me?

Lal Amadoru

THE yellow paper indicates that you have committed a minor traffic offence and may probably have to pay a fine. It would be advisable to go to the Traffic Sentences Execution Department at the General Traffic Department in Shuwaikh. They will tell you what action to take. If there is a fine, then pay the fine and the needful will be done by them. In case, the traffic police have made a case against you, you must follow up the case and find out about the judgement. As we don't know what has been said on the paper, we cannot tell you what to do. There must be a case number on the paper, get the number on the paper and follow up the case by going personally to the Traffic Sentences Department. If your case goes to court, it is advisable to appoint a lawyer to look into your case.

I STARTED my contract on Feb 15, 1990. The contract says I must be paid monthly. At the end of February, my salary was divided by 30 days and multiplied by 14, which was less than half of the agreed amount. Is that correct?

Saymanshi

THE calculation for the month of February must be number of working days divided by 26 days.

MY QUERY is regarding indemnity. I would like to know:

1. Is indemnity calculated on the basic salary?
2. Do allowances such as car, house and sales commission come under the basic salary?
Sometimes it so happens that your advice is irrelevant when the Ministry of Social Affairs is approached; they say your advice is good only on paper but in reality it is not practical.

T.S. Balan

THE house allowance and sales commission will be counted as part of the salary; the indemnity will then be calculated on the basic salary.

The car or transport allowance depends on the contract; in case of a dispute, the decision of a court is binding.

My advice is based on Kuwaiti law and it is not "mere advice only applicable on paper." I give advice to my readers based on the law and extensive experience derived from judgement issued by Kuwaiti courts of law, which certainly hear the case according to Kuwait's Labour Law. And no one can claim otherwise.

I HAVE completed eight years on visa No. 18. I completed five years from my present sponsor, who promised to raise my salary annually, which he did not over the last five years. I work 15 hours a day, without overtime on Fridays or holidays. Now, I have found another sponsor. Can I get the release from my sponsor? If he refuses, what is the procedure to get one? I joined the company as a local recruit.

ALI

YES, you can get a release from the sponsor, and if he refuses you can get it through the Social Affairs Ministry, according to the social affairs rules.

Pak HSSC examinations

The Higher Secondary School Certificate Examination, 1990 of the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Islamabad will commence from March 25, 1990. Candidates appearing in HSSC Examination are kindly advised

to collect their roll numbers slips from the principals of their respective institutions.

Private students are also advised to collect their roll numbers from the institutions which forwarded their applications.



Report Generation Course

The deputy director of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Hmoud Al Mudal attended a special function to honour graduates of the Report Generation Course held at the On-the-Job Training Centre at Dasman Complex in Sharq. The scientific co-ordinator of the course Dr Abdul Aziz Taqi said the course included a number of

training areas, such as the basics of report writing, methodological steps to reporting, samples of reports and others.

The course was taken by 18 Education Ministry personnel, who were handed their graduation certificates at the end of the function.

Sexual assault

Houseboy gets over 7 years

THE Criminal Court sentenced a houseboy to seven years and three months imprisonment with hard labour to be followed by deportation.

The court was told that the accused sexually assaulted the child of his employer. The houseboy was surprised in the act by the father of the victim who came home earlier than usual.

Under investigation the houseboy admitted that he used to lure the victim to his bedroom by promising to show him some hard video films and then used to commit the crime.

THE Criminal Court acquitted a housemaid and her boyfriend of attempted murder.

The employer of the housemaid informed the court that while sleeping in her bedroom she felt several blows to several parts of her body and screamed for help. The assailants escaped and the lady said that as it was dark she could not see them. However, she added that she suspected the maid and her boyfriend as she had told the former that she should discontinue seeing him.

However, the court took into consideration that the lady could not positively identify the assailants and also that, when she told her story to the court there were several discrepancies.

THE coast guard during the course of their patrols noticed a boat moving in a suspicious manner and called out to halt. However, the boat increased speed and tried to evade being apprehended.

A high-speed chase ensued in which the coast guard called for back up from the navy and air force. Eventually, the suspect boat was outmanoeuvred and boarded.

A search of the boat revealed a large consignment of items designed to be smuggled into Kuwait along with four infiltrators.

Investigations are under progress, though no further details have been revealed.

THE Criminal Investigation Department apprehended a car containing 27 cartons of whiskey, a machine-gun and magazine containing 30 bullets.

Special standards for toys and books

HEAD of the Child Culture Committee at the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature, Amal Al Ghanem stressed that the Children Books and Games Festival held annually at the Mishref Fair Grounds, creates a link between children and books. The holding of such exhibitions is not a boring repetition, but rather aims at presenting good books to chil-

dren. Concerted efforts are exerted prior to the holding of the festival to choose the best books possible, the official added.

Regarding standards adopted on the process of selecting a child's game, Ghanem stated that special Kuwaiti standards have been formulated. Briefly speaking, she added that these standards guarantee that all games which are not conducive

to the child's health, mentality, body and psychology are prohibited from entering the festival.

Influence

She added that developing countries are experimentation stations for children books and games publishers and manufacturers. Every effort should be

exerted to ensure that our children are not ill-influenced, she said.

She pointed out that several committees were formed to carry out tests on games and these tests include quality, colour, sharp edges and other pitfalls, stressing that all games which are on display at the festival have been comprehensively tested from all aspects.

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MIDEAST

Mubarak to contact Assad on hostage release

CAIRO, March 23. (Agencies): Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak said he was ready to contact Syrian President Hafez Assad to help secure the release of Western hostages in Lebanon.

"I will contact Syrian President Hafez Assad on this issue," Mubarak said on prospects of a joint Syrian-Egyptian effort to help secure their release.

"And if Syria can play a role, then Egypt will do its best to help accelerate the release of the hostages, because this is a humanitarian issue we must all work for."

Egypt's Middle East News Agency (Mena) said Mubarak made the remarks after talks with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd in the Namibian capital of

Windhoek, where he attended celebrations marking Namibian independence.

Mena reported that Mubarak and Hurd discussed London's efforts to secure release of the hostages, and quoted the Egyptian leader as saying there were now better prospects for their release, but did not elaborate.

He said that Hurd had also discussed the hostages issue with a number of Arab Gulf states in contact with Iran.

Mubarak admitted that his country, which is allied with Iran's Gulf foe Iraq, has no links with Tehran, but he was willing to fully cooperate with Assad to help secure their release.

"The hostage issue can be resolved, and

my advice is that any further escalation on this matter must be avoided," Mubarak said.

Syria restored full diplomatic ties with Egypt last December after a 12-year break, which was prompted by the 1979 Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

In Beirut Lebanon's most influential Shiite Muslim cleric today spoke of a "new situation" regarding the fate of the hostages.

However, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, the patron of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, said he had no specific information about when any of the 18 Western hostages might be freed.

A terse statement released by

Fadlallah's office said the clericman, asked about the possibility of a hostage release in a radio interview, replied: "A new situation has emerged, but I don't know when, how and where."

No further remarks on the issue were included in the release.

A congressional panel passed a resolution yesterday that calls on President George Bush to speed up efforts to secure the immediate release of American hostages in Lebanon.

The measure, initially sponsored by Congressman Louise Slaughter of New York, was approved unanimously by the house foreign affairs committee.

German charged for Rabta plant role

BONN, March 23. (AP): A West German businessman on Thursday was charged with playing a decisive role in helping build Libya's Rabta plant, which allegedly produced poison gas before a fire erupted there last week.

Juergen Hippenstiel-Imhausen, former head of the Imhausen-Chemie chemical company, was indicted on charges of violating West Germany's export laws and tax evasion.

Also on Thursday, a government official said Libya has stopped payments to West German firms doing business with Libya in the wake of the Rabta plant fire, and that West Germany has issued a formal protest. Libya alleged West German intelligence was involved in the fire, which Bonn vigorously denied.

Mannheim prosecutor Peter Wechsung charged that Hippenstiel-Imhausen had a "decisive role" in the planning and construction for the Rabta chemical complex.

Court officials said the trial may begin in the summer.

Wechsung said the suspect allegedly shipped to Libya "documents on production" as well as "measuring and regulating instruments" to be used by the chemical complex.

He said investigators had concluded that the Libyan plant was "solely intended" for the production of poison gases.

Wechsung also revealed that West Germany's federal police had created a special "Rabta" unit consisting of 20 officials who took part in the investigation.

Speaking to reporters in Mannheim, Wechsung said about 3,000 files containing documents, plans and other material had been confiscated in the investigation and that statements were taken from more than 200 witnesses.

Wechsung did not say whether other arrests were expected.

Hippenstiel-Imhausen stepped down as head of the company last March and was arrested on Oct 5.

A number of West German companies were raided a little more than a year ago after US charges that German firms had helped build the plant. However, only Hippenstiel-Imhausen has been arrested.

West German government officials confirmed that Libya has interrupted trade with West Germany in the wake of last week's fire at the Rabta plant.

Shas holds balance of power but divided Peres fails to win support

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 23. (AP): Labour leader Shimon Peres met with leaders of the key ultra-orthodox Shas and Degel Hatorah parties yesterday, but failed to win a pledge of support that would place him in the premiership.

Shas also remained elusive in its meeting earlier with Peres' rival, caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who is seeking to consolidate a block of Labour's attempts to form a new coalition government.

Shas holds the balance of power but is deeply divided on whether to join a coalition led by the dovish Labour Party or to support the right-wing Likud block.

Shas has backed Likud since its formation in 1984.

Peres was charged with forming a new coalition after Shamir last week lost a no-confidence motion in the 120-member parliament over his refusal to accept a US peace plan.

Peres claims the support of 60 legislators but needs the backing of Shas or another ultra-orthodox party, Degel Hatorah, to rule. If he does not win the support of at least 61 seats within a six-week time limit, Shamir could be given the opportunity to make a coalition.

The spiritual leader of the two religious parties, Rabbi Eliezer Schach of the Council of Torah Sages, opposes a Labour-led coalition, but several Shas and Degel Hatorah legislators back Peres. Together, the two parties command eight seats in parliament.

After meeting with Peres, Degel Hatorah legislators, Avraham Ravitz told Army Radio they favoured the Likud position, "but anything can happen in political life."

Interior Minister Arich Deri of Shas said they were meeting with Peres because they were invited according to the mandate he received from the President.

"We are not ruling out anybody. Our mandate from the council is not to negotiate the formation of a government at this stage, but to ask questions," he said on Army Radio.

Israel radio reported last night that Shas ordered the two parties to continue to support Likud, but noted that he had not ruled out Peres.

In the Shas meeting with Shamir earlier yesterday, Shamir reiterated his absolute commitment to peace and the peace process," said Shamir aide Avi Pazner.

Pazner said Shamir was still confident that the two ultra-orthodox parties would not support Peres.



Labour Party leader Shimon Peres, 66, opens political discussions after he was chosen to form a new government. Peres may now have the chance to achieve a breakthrough in Middle East peace. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bashir in secret talk with opposition

KHARTOUM, March 23. (Reuters): Sudanese Junta leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir held secret meetings this month with politicians of parties suppressed when he seized power last June, diplomats and political sources said yesterday.

Bashir was trying to broaden his junta's political base, but got a frosty response, particularly from southern Christian leaders, the sources said.

According to one who took part, the Christians told him they could not help him end a seven-year-old civil war in southern Sudan while Muslim fundamentalists were calling the tune in Khartoum.

Leading Muslims from the two largest pro-comp parties also refused Bashir their support, the sources said.

In another recent move to reduce its isolation, the junta last week named a cross-section of former politicians to an advisory council described as "a sort of Parliament."

But fewer than half of the 41 appointees have taken part in the council's meetings.

The main exceptions were supporters of the fundamentalist National Islamic Front (NIF), which advocated a hard line on the southern war and, while officially banned other parties, is widely seen as a major influence on the junta.

A Christian politician who met the junta leader and asked not to be quoted by name told Reuters: "We told Bashir his government has banned all political parties except one, the NIF, a party we told him is unfortunately not for peace."

According to diplomats and Sudanese sources, those who met Bashir in recent weeks included:

— Bakri Ati of the Umma Party, which was the largest in the Parliament Bashir abolished last June and was led by Saïed Al Mahdi, the prime minister he overthrew;

— Dr Hussein Abu Saleh of the Democratic Unionist Party, the second largest party and the leading force for a peace settlement with southern rebels;

— Samuel Ara, head of the Southern Sudan Political Association, the largest party in the south;

— Philip Gabboush, a priest from the Nuba Mountains in Kordofan who heads of the Sudan National Party;

— Gabriel Yno, who was governor of the southern region of upper Nile before Bashir's coup.



Two Arabs shot dead in Nablus

Demos erupt as curfew is imposed

NABLUS, March 23. (Agencies): Israeli forces shot dead two armed Palestinians yesterday in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus, a nationalist stronghold of a 27-year-old uprising against Israeli rule, residents said.

They said forces opened fire on four armed Palestinians in the ancient Cashah market in the city of 120,000, killing Nasser Al Kaseer, 28, and Ibrahim Abu Ghadib, 19. A third was believed to have been wounded.

Soldiers ordered people off the streets.

Palestinians said the four Palestinians belonged to an offshoot of the Black Panthers group which has shot, stabbed and hacked to death Nablus residents suspected of collaborating with Israel against the uprising.

Security sources confirmed, two Palestinian gunmen were killed in Nablus. Residents said soldiers prevented ambulances from evacuating the dead and wounded men.

In the Nablus Cashah last December, Israeli forces shot dead the leader and three members of the underground Black Panthers in a gunbattle — a rarity for the uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation-backed revolt, while urging stone-throwing against Israelis, have barred the use of firearms. Activists say they comply but frequently display pistols and automatic weapons to demonstrate strength.

The deaths raised to at least 635 the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis in the uprising. A Reuters count shows 196 residents killed by other Palestinians, mostly on suspicion of collaborating with Israel. Forty-four Jews have died.

In other developments the Jerusalem Post reported that teen-agers from rival PLO factions got into a sword-swinging, rock-throwing brawl Wednesday in the West Bank village of Jadideb during a ceremony marking the anniversary of a Palestinian battle with Israel.

The fight erupted as a member of the Democratic Front for the

Liberation of Palestine was giving a speech, and members of the rival Popular Front began jeering, the Post said.

Popular Front activists have been angry with the other faction for backing Arafat's efforts to talk peace with Israel. The Post said one youth cracked a wooden pole over a rival's head in the fighting but reported no serious injuries.

Israeli soldiers punched and kicked. Reuters photographer Havakuk Levison yesterday after he took pictures of them detaining two Palestinians in a roundup of suspected stone-throwers.

The army spokesman, informed of the incident, issued an apology and promised an investigation.

The Palestinian newsletter Bisan, published in Nicosia, said the Palestinian group known as "The Black Leopards" clashed with an Israeli army unit wearing civilian clothes when soldiers opened fire on the commandos in the old sector of Nablus, the West Bank's largest city. Two commandos were killed.

Saudi trader sues Cyprus rag for libel

NICOSIA, March 23. (Reuters): Saudi businessman Hani Yamani, son of former oil minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani, is suing a Greek-Cypriot newspaper for one million Cypriot pounds (\$2 million), a record libel suit sum on this holiday island.

Yamani, who proposes to build on the island a \$300 million tourist project which is still awaiting government approval, told Reuters yesterday an action was filed in a Nicosia court against the weekly newspaper Kirikas for an article which he said was defamatory.

Legal advisers for Yamani said an action had been filed against the paper owners, its editor and distributors, for the article which appeared on the front page of Sunday's edition.

The article alleged that Turkish-Cypriot born tycoon Asil Nadir, who heads Polytek International PIC (PPI) of Britain, was possibly backing Yamani financially through a Luxembourg company.

Since the 1974 invasion split Cyprus, some Greek Cypriots regard Nadir as an enemy of their country.

"I can't let it pass. It will always be a cloud. I want it straightened by the law. I trust the court system in this country," Yamani said.

Hirawi averts crisis as CB clears credit

BEIRUT, March 23. (Reuters): A compromise engineered by Lebanese President Elias Hrawi has averted a government crisis over a bizarre row between the interior minister and the head of the Central Bank, official sources said yesterday.

Interior Minister Elias Al Khazen presented his resignation to Hrawi and Prime Minister Selim Hoss on Wednesday, but the President did not officially accept it.

The sources said submission of the resignation letter was part of a compromise that stipulated Hrawi would not act on it and the minister would stay in office.

They said the issue was considered closed.

Khazen was asked to resign by Hoss last week after the interior minister sent his bodyguards to seize Central Bank Governor Edmond Naim.

The bodyguards burst into a board meeting at the bank's west Beirut headquarters and told Naim the interior minister wanted to see him immediately.

When Naim refused to accompany them, they punched and beat him before being driven away by bank security guards.

Several ministers, including Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, said they would resign if Khazen was forced to quit the cabinet.

Bank officials said Naim had angered Khazen by refusing to release funds to the Interior Ministry with which to buy a fresh stock of blank Lebanese passports from London.

A force of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia attacked a base of pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim extremists in south Lebanon yesterday, an SLA-run radio station said.

The Voice of the South said a 75-man SLA force advanced two km (1.2 miles) outside Israel's self-declared security zone in south Lebanon and fought Hezbollah fighters.

The radio said one gunman was killed and two others were wounded during the one-hour rocket and machine-gun clash near the village of Mashghara, 45 km (28 miles) southeast of Beirut.

A Hezbollah spokesman denied the report.

Israel established the security zone in 1985, after it withdrew thousands of its troops who invaded Lebanon in 1982, to prevent commando infiltrations into the Jewish state.



T-T quadruplets Doctors at a hospital hold the first test-tube quadruplets born in Jordan before they left the maternity ward with their 30-year-old mother on Wednesday. She conceived by in-vitro fertilisation. (Reuters wirephoto)

Jordan sets up legal bodies to probe sale of gold reserves

CAIRO, March 23. (UPI): Justice Minister Youssef Mobrydin said that five legal bodies had been set up to interrogate government officials, involved in corruption cases, including the illegal sale of Jordan's gold reserves.

These bodies would begin work to examine nine cases of financial and administrative corruption, Mobrydin said.

"These bodies are empowered by law to take all necessary measures in tracking down the individuals proven to have been involved in these cases," he said. "The cases include housing schemes, road construction, imports of foodstuffs not fit for human consumption and selling Jordan's gold reserves." He did not give the value of the gold reserves stolen.

A number of current and former high-ranking cabinet and government officials are expected to be charged.

The Jordanian Parliament on Tuesday accused 20 prominent figures and seven former cabinet ministers with financial and administrative corruption and referred their cases to the attorney-general.

Former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai was

accused of corruption and restricting political freedoms after riots erupted in the southern parts of the kingdom last April, and led to the downfall of his government.

In a separate development, Finance Minister Basel Jaradneh said that Jordan expected to receive \$750 million in Arab grants and loans which, if received, would reduce Jordan's shortage of foreign currency reserves.

"We estimate that Jordan's income from Arab grants and foreign loans this year should amount to \$750 million and I believe we are getting it," Jaradneh told a

group of foreign reporters.

"The government of Jordan is trying to make very strong efforts to get Arab grants and there has been healthy and good signs."

King Hussein of Jordan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran have toured the oil-rich Gulf states of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates last month to seek Arab aid to overcome Jordan's financial crisis.

Jardaneh said he expected \$360 million in Arab grants and an estimated \$344 million in external loans will be coming soon.

Cypriot labour minister quits: The Labour minister of Cyprus has resigned for personal reasons but has agreed to stay in office through next month, the government said on Thursday.

An official announcement said Labour and Social Insurance Minister Takis Christofides had accepted President George Vassiliou's request to stay on until the end of April. (Reuters)

UN chief delays trip: United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has delayed by a day the start of a North African trip at promoting a plan to end the 14-year Western Sahara war.

A UN spokeswoman told Reuters that Perez de Cuellar would now arrive in Morocco on Friday, afternoon for talks with King Hassan before moving on to Algeria, Mauritania and a small area of the former Spanish colony held by Polisario rebels. (Reuters)

40 days to seek pardon: Five Palestinians under sentence of death for attacks on foreign targets in Sudan have received a stay of execution and 40 more days to seek forgiveness.

Five Britons and two Sudanese died in simultaneous 1988 raids on Khartoum's British Club and Acropole Hotel. Families of the British victims indicated last year they did not want the death sentences carried out. The Sudanese families have not yet spoken. (Reuters)

Arafat to visit Rome: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will visit Rome next month for talks with Italian leaders and Pope John Paul, the PLO representative to Italy said on Thursday.

Nemer Hamad said Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), would meet Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis as well as the pontiff during the April 5-6 trip. (Reuters)

Private Lives: A roaring success

By Diana Abou Haider
Arab Times staff

ONE of the aims of Cafe Theatre is to communicate to people that theatre is still fun. On Thursday and Friday night, hundreds of them got the message loud and clear.

Cafe Theatre's performance of Noel Coward's *Private Lives* at Kuwait International succeeded in taking the audience away to an excitingly funny world of tangled relationships and emotions that might leave one with more questions than answers about love and marriage.

The play is about Elyot and Amanda, who meet by accident in a small hotel in France after five years of their divorce. But they are not alone. Each one of them is honeymooning with a new spouse.

The first minute they set eyes on each other, they find out that they are still in love. It did not take them long to decide to elope to Amanda's flat in Paris where they discover that none of them has really changed. The fighting and bickering that broke their marriage still threatened their relationship. Victor and Sybil, the jilted spouses arrive at the flat to find Elyot and Amanda on the floor fighting with pillows.

Protective Victory tries to convince Amanda to go back to him and Sybil, the cry-baby, tries to win her husband back. But although Elyot and Amanda are still bitter about their fight, they decide to slip away together leaving Victor and Sybil to another weird fighting relationship of their own.

Coward's smart dialogue that keeps one laughing all the time raises questions such as: What makes a good marriage? How much can fighting affect a marriage? How much do people and their feelings to one another change over time?

The five-person cast along with the director, succeeded in creating a warm and intimate atmosphere that is always sought by this touring troupe.

Private Lives is scheduled to perform in Bangkok, Manila, Singapore, Muscat, Karachi and Amman.



The show must go on....

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

FRANK BARRIE of the London Shakespeare Group, dressed as Macbeth, hobbled onto the stage supported by his two crutches and announced that the show must go on.

No, it wasn't some new interpretation of Shakespeare's tragedy in which the hero had to be crippled. It was simply that Barrie had broken his knee, had his leg in plaster and refused to have the show cancelled, much to the delight of the audiences in Kuwait.

He then gave a riveting performance (Wednesday, Kuwait English School) which was aptly matched by Elizabeth Bell as Lady Macbeth, and six other actors who smoothly slipped in and out of roles — they each played several parts as is customary with travelling troupes.

But it was Barrie in the taxing leading role that shone with greatness. For he even managed to turn his handicap into an advantage. As Macbeth sinks deeper into the dark world of treachery and murder, he staggers and stumbles, tormented at times by his murderous deeds, at others by crimes that have yet to be committed before he can achieve his

ambition. The sickness of the mind had spread to the body and it was easy to forget that there was an actor with a broken leg before us.

Macbeth is a villain who engages our sympathy and it is largely thanks to Barrie's superb interpretation that the character provoked pity rather than anger. But not entirely. For Macbeth is a great play precisely because Shakespeare managed to turn a criminal into a hero. He did so with the help of the three witches whose prophecies cast a spell on Macbeth. And here again the London Shakespeare Group, which carries all its props with them, excelled.

The scenes with the witches were among the most effective ones. Their ominous chanting, ragged costumes and serpentine movements combine to produce a creeping of the flesh. With very little in terms of decor the Group did miracles with a smoke-machine and a large piece of silk.

The witches' scenes are enveloped in darkness which broods over this tragedy. Lady Macbeth hatches her dangerous plots and later loses the grip on her mind in the dead of night.

Bell gives a balanced interpretation of the role where a lesser actress would have easily

over-acted.

Probably some of the finest poetry to be found in the play is in Macbeth's final speech when he is face to face with death and when truth and order are regained.

It is no surprise that Macbeth sees life as deceitful.

This verse, delivered brilliantly by Barrie, is which he says "Life is but a walking shadow... a tale told by an idiot", as did earlier Macbeth's soaring ambition and attacks of remorse, strikes a responsive cord with the audience. In a tragedy enveloped in darkness there is one scene that provides what is termed as 'comic relief'. A porter suffering from a hangover, superbly played by Arthur Cox wearing a nightgown, debates the effects of liquor. "Drink provokes the desire, but it takes away the performance" says the porter, much to his own and his companions' amusement, not to speak about the audience. But the contrast between desire and act is the underlying theme of the play and is repeated in verses delivered by both Macbeth and his wife. Indeed their tragedy is in that they unscrupulously gave in to their desires. Our privilege is that we had the London Shakespeare Group to act out their machinations and final downfall.

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Arabic film
Al Salmiyah
The Wild Pair
Al Hamra
Arabic film
Drive-In
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Hisaah Khoo Ka
Fahadhel Open-Air
Hum Bhi Insaan Hain
Fahadhel
Adharvan
Al Jahra
Space Mutiny
Granada
Saigon
Sulabikhat
Arabic film
Jleeb
Peruvannapurathu
Vishanag
Ahmadi Drive-In
Too Hot No Trot

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Kher. News
9.50 Cartoon serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
11.25 Arabic serial
12.25 News summary
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

EVENING PERIOD

4.00 The opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
4.45 Sabam Al Fadh: cartoon serial
5.15 The Young Artist: local children programme
6.00 Wa Qalat Al Arab: historical serial
7.15 Noor Al Islam: religious programme
7.45 Cultural programme
8.00 Security and Citizens: local programme
8.30 Good Evening and local news
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Daerat Al Ahdath:

local programme
10.15 Lil Adala Wajh Akhar: Arabic serial (part 10)
11.00 Thaib Al Nashama: weekly Bedouin serial, starring: Ghanem Al Saleh, Ali Al Mufeedi and Rouhi Al Safadi
12.00 News summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 The Adventures of Ragged and Andy: A cartoon series for children.
6.30 Orphans of The Wild: A look at the zebra and other wild animals that need special care in the zoo.
7.00 Not Another Science Show: "You Are What You Eat!" A look at food stuffs and their effect on human life. How food enters human body... Importance of vitamins and energy needed by our

bodies.
7.30 The Hogan Family: "Love With The Pooper Hogan". Bert feels disappointed when his schoolmate Sally refuses his invitation to dinner... Mrs. Hogan calls him and gives him certain instructions.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Quantum Leap: "So Help Me God."
9.30 Japan: "The Legacy of the Shoguns". An attempt to study historical reasons for loyalty shown by the Japanese people... The educational system which is considered the best in the world.
10.30 Feature Movie: "The Cradle Will Fall". Starring: Lauren Hughton, Ben Murphy. A gynaecologist carries out illegal experiments on his girlfriends where he causes the death of many of them.
12.00 News in Brief
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite.

Musical Nite enjoyed by all

PAKISTAN Arts Circle Veterans held a colourful "Musical Nite" at the Sharq Co-operative Hall last night at which the musicians from Kuwait and Fankada Group artists gave their performances.

A large number of people attended the programme which was presided over by the First Secretary of the Pakistani Embassy, Manzar Shafiq. A well known personality of Pakistani community, Ghulam Ali Allana was the chief guest.

The programme commenced with the introduction of the musicians by the radio and TV newscaster, Aesha Jagirdar. The rest of the programme was conducted by Agha Saeed.

Veena's perfect and beautiful dance thrilled the packed-hall audience while little Kawal Agha

and Agha Sarfaraz also amused the public with their couple dance.

Sami Saani, with "Chori Chori Jab Hoo," showed his unique and flamboyant style. With the "Bar Bar Dekho," Ghazali Behzad once again won the hearts of many viewers.

Zulfiqar Ahmad melodiously presented "Neele Neele Anbar," "Gore Rang Ka Zamana" sung by Syed Zafar drew wide applause.

A popular singer of Kuwait's stage programmes and a guest artist of PAC, Girja, once again proved her singing skill with her sweet voice.

Syed Moazzam Ali, an artist of Pakistan TV, charged the audience by cracking jokes.

A display of Pakistan's

national costumes was a prime presentation of the programme. Participating in the costume display were: Zubia Aqil (Pathan), Ruhina Sharfuddin (Sindhi), Nabila Osman (Kashmiri), Mishal (Punjabi) and Nadia Ghazali (Baluchi).

The programme concluded with a free lucky draw which included 35 prizes contributed by local companies which supported the programme.

At the end of the programme, Messrs G. Allana and Manzar Shafiq, thanked the PAC veterans of organising such a colourful evening. The Organising Committee of the programme, which includes Abdus Sattar Ghazali, Zulfiqar Ahmad and Zahid Butt, thanked all those who helped in making the programme a success.



Sri Lanka Bazaar

A bazaar was held at the Sri Lankan embassy premises on Friday. It was organised by the Sri Lanka Seva Vanitha unit, Kuwait. It displayed many products including toys, books, clothes and monuments.

Austrian masseur specialising in foot reflexology, acupressure, athletic and relaxation massage available everyday. Tennis clinics on-going for all levels of play including Junior, Ladies' and Adult sessions with Frank Novak — an experienced Canadian coach and tennis professional. Classes total 4 weeks in length and meet twice each week. Private coaching also available and fun tennis sessions for the family. Ladies' Keep Fit Classes on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ladies' Sauna now offers a 50 per cent discount on the usual entrance fee. Ladies' Day on Saturdays and Tuesdays from

9.00 am to 9.00 pm. For details place call: 2530000/8050 (Recreation).

Apollo Fitness Centre

ON-GOING CLASSES:
Apollo Stretch — Sun and Wed — 10.30 - 11.30 am; Apollo Workout — Sunday — 5.30 - 6.30 pm, Tuesday — 5.00 - 6.00 pm; Fast 'n' Fizzical (mixed) — Friday — 1.00 to 2.00 pm; Monday Madness — 4.00 - 5.00 pm; Tuesday treat (mixed) — 6.00 to 7.00 pm; Saturday sweatshop — 4.00 to 5.00 pm; Martial arts — Mon, Wed, Fri; Taekwondo — Sat, Mon, Wed; Hatha Yoga — enroll now for April. Call in now for further details. Tel: 4742000 ext. 6700.

Yoga lessons FOR FITNESS and slimming. Kuwait International Hotel offers Yoga lessons for ladies and men, every Sunday and Tuesday at 8.00 to 9.00 pm and on Friday from 10.30 to 11.30 am. For more information contact Antonie Kiogma on 2533000 or Tanya on 5626529.

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.28 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.02
Isha	7.19

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery
INDIAN artist Shamima Farid is showing a collection of her latest works at the Sultan Gallery, near Rolls Royce showroom. A wide selection of subjects are featured in the paintings of the artist, who has exhibited widely in Kuwait and overseas. However, this is Shamima's first solo-exhibition in Kuwait. Open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

Bits 'n' Pieces
An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel: 5634663.

SOCIAL

Guardian Angel Club
The Guardian Angel Club take great pleasure in announcing their Konkani drama entitled "Ostorocho Mog" (Woman's Love) directed by Renuka J. Colaco, on June 8, 1990, at the IAC, Goa Charlie Chaplin — Jancito Vaz, Ophelia, H. Britton and Sebby Coutinho are among the other well known Goan cast.

German-speaking Cultural Association
THE forthcoming annual election will take place on Monday, March 26, 1990, 8 pm, at Kuwait International Hotel, Ahmadi Room. All ladies and gentlemen of the German-speaking community are requested to attend.

Flag hoisting
A FLAG-HOISTING ceremony will be held at the Bangladesh embassy, Khaldiya, on Monday, March 26, at 9.00 am on the occasion of the Bangladesh Independence and National Day. The Bangladesh Ambassador, K.M. Shehabuddin will raise the flag. All Bangladeshis are cordially invited.

Konkani non-stop show
A Konkani non-stop show entitled "Koxit Ani Sontos" (Hardships & Happiness), written and directed by Epa de Utorda, organised by Utorda Lourdes Boys will be staged on July 6, 1990 at 3.30 pm. Venue: Labour Union Hall, Maidan Hawaii. For more information contact 4817857.

Ladies International League
LIL's Summer Bazaar is now being held at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel in the exhibition hall on Friday, May 11 from 10 am to 6 pm. Vendors' first meeting at Regency palace in Nabila Room from 5 pm to 7 pm on March 26. All inquiries contact Celina on 3434946 or Barbara on 5325131.

There will be a coffee morning for newcomers to LIL and Kuwait on Sunday, March 25, at the Sheraton Hotel in the Green Room from 10 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. For more info telephone Ann on 5316905.

Sylhet Community gathering
Sylhet well wishers community gathering at Lord's Restaurant, Fahadhel at 7.30 pm March 24. For further details please contact 3625889 or 3917502.

Summer Affair '90
THE Weekend Club will host their traditional "Summer Affair" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr (April 26) at the Regency Palace Hotel. Watch or participate in the selection and crowning of the 1990 Summer Queen, join in a Jive Contest, watch a scintillating display of "Lambada" or simply let your feet loose to the music of Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers. Gala buffet, loads of prizes and most important have a good time. For reservations call 4315425 (Julio), 5741380 or 4890566.

Ladies International League
THERE will be a coffee morning for newcomers to LIL and Kuwait on Sunday March 25 at the Sheraton Hotel in the Green Room from 10 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. For more info telephone Ann on 5316905.

Narmada Malayalam play
NARMADA Theatres will be staging a social Malayalam play, A Love, Mantra From Ujjain, at Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funaites on Friday, May 11, 1990 at 6.30 pm. Written by Varghese Paul, lyrics by Rajendra Bahu, music by Antony Joseph, the play is co-directed by Sheryl John and directed by Jayan Pattathu. Various characters are being represented by popular stage artists among the Malayalee community in Kuwait.

Rose Ferns drama
MAY 10-11: Expatriates Club proudly announces that Goa's celebrated king of century shows Rose Ferns, and his sixteen member troupe, will present at the Granada Cinema hall, Khaldiya, his premier release in Kuwait "Xipac" (Broken Glass) and "Baiman Tam" (You Ungrateful) which has already crossed the hundred plus mark in Goa. More details later.

HOTELS

Holiday Inn
AL AHMADI COFFEE SHOP: An ideal venue for that business lunch or a relaxing dinner. Michael and Delaine, our duo sing for you every evening from 8 pm till midnight. Choose from our lavish international buffet and then sit back and enjoy the Holiday Inn's excellent service. Why not treat yourself to our value for money. Breakfast buffet you can always work off those excess calories at the Apollo Fitness Centre.

AL ANDALUS SUPPER CLUB: Spending your Thursday night Arabic style. Savour our exotic Oriental and international food. Relax to the musical entertainment provided by our resident Arabic band. Come and enjoy your desert.

Friday family lunch: A great time for the whole family. Prizes and surprises for the children with Disney characters and our amazing magician. A sumptuous Oriental and international buffet complemented by the sounds of our resident band, makes this a day to look forward. See you all.

Messilah Beach Hotel
Messilah Beach Hotel is promoting an evening of seafood specialties every Wednesday evening at 7 pm in Al Mubarakiah Restaurant.

Hotel Meridien Kuwait
Envoy Thai cuisine every Saturday night at La Brasserie in addition to its daily lavish buffet. Thai specialties are prepared by the chef in front of guests.

COWBOY NIGHT EVERY SUNDAY: Enjoy live country music, western decor and hearty ranch food — prime ribs, burgers, tacos and great desserts including mom's apple pie. Visit La Brasserie for a real

country hoo-down. EVERY MONDAY NIGHT AT LA BRASSERIE: Enjoy Chinese cuisine in addition to its lavish daily buffet. Chinese specialties are prepared in front of guests.

SAS Hotel
AL GHAZER: Sails again and offers you a unique experience of the old seafaring Kuwaiti tradition. We prepared special menus you can enjoy onboard. Available for half day or full day trip. For reservation, pls call up 5657000 ext. 416.

AL BOOM: The only floating restaurant in town. Magnificent array of mezze — delicious Hor's d'oeuvres together with wide range of international appetizers and salads. Choose your main course from succulent varieties of charcoal grilled delicacies — prime American beef, Gulf lobster hamour or zubeidi. Enjoy your della at the diwan overlooking the sea. For reservation, pls call up 5657000 ext. 403 or 540.

PEACOCK ROOM: Our Chinese chef recommends fried prawns with turnips and chili sauce, crispy fried smoked beef and wide varieties of delectable Chinese specialties from our chef's recommendation or take your pick from our delightful menu of sumptuous Chinese favourites.

Book for a nice table in cozy elegance of our Peacock Room. Pls. call 5657000 ext. 403 or 532.

BISTRETTO: Italian specialty restaurant which also offers international and Arabic dishes. Lunch and dinner buffet daily. Family day every Friday with brunch buffet for the whole family or let your children choose their favourites from our children's menu. Reserve your now. Pls call up 5657000 ext. 531 for reservations.

CLOCK: Drive-in restaurant offers varieties of mouth-watering fast food items — juicy burgers, hot French fries, crispy drumsticks, and lot more plus soft drinks and juices.

Sheraton
COFFEE Shop: A new attraction is the seafood night every Monday where some of the best of sea foods are prepared. For a taste of the best of preparations of sweet and

SPORTS

Le Meridien
VERSAILLES: Take advantage of our great value business lunch which includes starter, main course, dessert and coffee.

Or in relaxing atmosphere provided by our resident artist you can relish the finest cuisine from our A La Carte menu, which features specialties from our chef as fish or beef "fondue", grilled beef on "braserade" hamour and salmon on "shingle" among others.

GREEK TAVERNA: Every Tuesday at La Brasserie — Enjoy a little Mediterranean Magic, real Bouzouki music and dreamy Greek island specialties and atmosphere.

INDONESIAN CORNER: Every Wednesday at La Brasserie — Enjoy Indonesian cuisine in addition to our daily lavish buffet. Our chef will prepare Indonesian specialties in front of you.

JAZZ NIGHT: Every Thursday at La Brasserie — Enjoy New Orleans atmosphere with jazz and seafood specialties.

ORIENTAL BUFFET LUNCH: Every Friday at La Brasserie — Enjoy a typical Oriental buffet lunch with Oriental organist.

Daniella Bowling
ALL Dances are invited to participate in the first ever Daniella Bowling Tournament on April 5, 1990, at 6 pm. For further information and registration please call Connie - Tel: 3715637 or Marianne - Tel: 3720137 before March 26.

Kuwait International Hotel
FIT FOR LIFE: Qualified

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE worst vice of a fanatic is his sincerity — Oscar Wilde, Irish-born writer (1854-1900).

After bloody crackdown

Sichuan students return to class

CHENGDU, China, (Reuters): Nine months after the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing and this southern city, the students of Sichuan University are sickening to their books.

"We're too afraid to say anything because we know we'll be kicked out of school if we do," said one student.

There was an atmosphere of suppression at a recent meeting of university administrators, students and foreign journalists.

Public security bureau agents sat in the audience in full view, earphones in place. Several took copious notes of the proceedings.

Minds

"Don't expect anybody here to speak their minds," said one teacher. "Everybody is worried about his future."

It was not always this subdued. One local reporter said thousands of Sichuan University students demonstrated for more civil liberties at Chengdu's giant statue of Mao Tse-tung on June 3 and last year.

One student who did not participate said: "Those who took part did it out of love for their country."

Witnesses to the events told Reuters they knew of no students involved in violence or property damage.

Diplomats said estimates of the numbers killed in Chengdu's unrest when security forces intervened range widely from about 20 to 300 people.

Five Sichuan University students were arrested, one of them accused of turning down a department store, said a school official.

Local residents said they had heard the culprits were two ex-convicts in police employ.

"It was definitely a set-up to make the demonstration look bad," a teacher said.

A public security official refused to comment.

In the university conference hall some two-dozen handpicked students condemned the dissidents under the school authorities' watchful gaze.

Harmful

One young man studying foreign trade stood up and said: "Those people insisted on bourgeois liberalism, which is harmful to our country."

"Capitalism and freedom are the same as bourgeois liberalism."

Bourgeois liberalism is a watchword for foreign political influence, which the government condemns.

A foreign-language student told the assembly he regretted taking part in the protests. "We could do great harm to our country, because if the country is disrupted, we cannot study," he said.

Privately, students expressed different feelings.

"People here are still dissatisfied," a student said. "But students are told not to be politically active or they'll get kicked out of school."

Discontent with the government's hold on power remains, she said. Basic freedoms such as job choice after graduation are denied, as are other civil liberties like freedom of speech and expression.

Even before Beijing issued strict regulations for students last month, Sichuan University went ahead with its own.

Like the government rules, they stipulate compulsory attendance at unspecified prescribed activities. No posters or unauthorised publications are allowed on campus and religious activities are forbidden.

Participate

A teacher said the students must participate in an hour of ideological study each week.

University president Ling Libin said that since the June demonstrations an unspecified number of students had been sent to the countryside to be straightened out.

"They were asked to make social investigations of how the peasants live," she said.

Although Chengdu is 1,600 km (1,000 miles) from the watchful eyes of the Beijing government, its local authorities are every bit as vigilant and taking no chances of another dissident outburst.

Police have warned students and other citizens not to speak to foreigners, a local reporter said.

The provincial brand of surveillance has its comic aspects. A foreign journalist, followed around Chengdu by plainclothes policemen, was finally approached by their boss for a chat.

It turned out that his unit was eager to make money "guiding" foreign visitors as it monitored their movements. But dwindling tourist arrivals since the June turmoil was hurting his business, he complained.

The police boss said his employees posed as interpreters for visitors during a recent trade conference.

"It was for their protection, of course," he said.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1267 — St. Louis of France calls his knights to Paris to prepare for his second crusade to holy land.

1595 — Peace of Boulogne ends England's war with France and Scotland.

1603 — Crowns of England and Scotland are joined under James VI of Scotland, who begins reign as James I upon death of Queen Elizabeth I.

1783 — Spain recognizes independence of United States.

1848 — Sardinia declares war on Austria.

1882 — Robert Koch, German bacteriologist, announces isolation of tuberculosis germs.

1891 — Britain and Italy reach agreement in Ethiopia, defining frontiers of their Red Sea colonies.

1924 — Greece is proclaimed a republic.

1927 — Chinese communists seize Nanking in China.

1929 — Fascists "win" single-party elections in Italy.

1935 — New constitution goes into effect in Tanganyika.

1939 — Iraq withdraws from Baghdad Pact.

1972 — Britain takes over direct control of Northern Ireland in effort to restore peace.

1974 — Uganda crushes coup attempt against president Idi Amin following machine-gun and mortar battle with rebels.

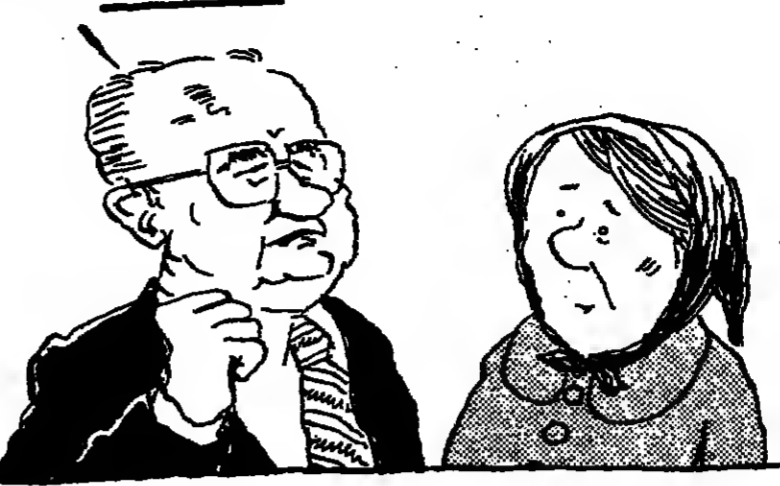
1988 — Iran pulls out of Muslim conference in Jordan after fellow Muslims criticize Iran's failure to heed call for Gulf war ceasefire.

1989 — In Lebanon, Christian army commander refuses to accept ceasefire in 17-day conflict with Syrian troops and Druze militiamen.

IT IS TIME FOR GLASNOST, DEMOCRACY AND ELECTIONS



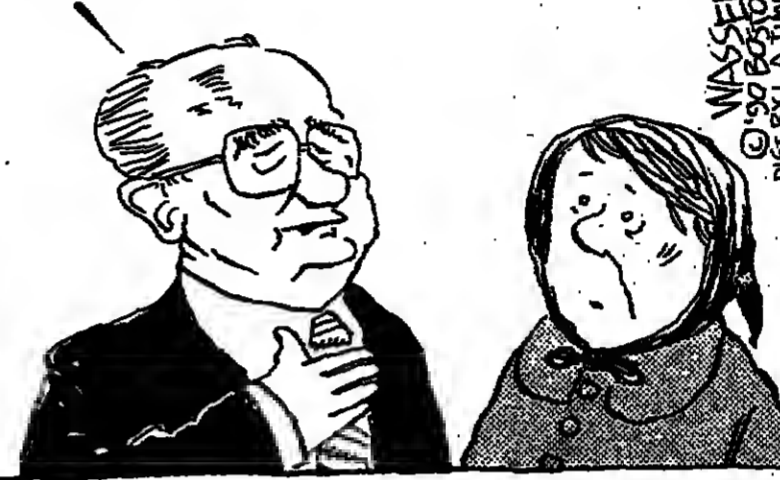
IT IS TIME FOR THE PEOPLE TO DECIDE



TERRIFIC! WHEN CAN WE VOTE?



WHENEVER I DECIDE



Hosts meetings with foreign dignitaries

De Klerk cashes in on Namibia Colonies still in Africa

WINDHOEK, (Reuters): President F.W. de Klerk is cashing in his diplomatic dividend from South Africa's departure from Namibia with an unprecedented series of meetings with foreign statesmen.

De Klerk, who returns to South Africa on Thursday, is expected to claim at his farewell news conference that a big breach has been made in his country's longstanding diplomatic isolation.

Breakthrough

The biggest breakthrough was De Klerk's cordial meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, the highest-level diplomatic encounter between the two governments.

De Klerk has reaped the benefit not only of the decision to leave Namibia — taken by his predecessor P.W. Botha — but also of his own reforms inside South Africa.

Shevardnadze and other foreign leaders also paid their calls on the man widely seen as South Africa's president-in-waiting, African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela.

De Klerk held court amid the colonial splendour of South West Africa House, soon to be vacated by Pretoria and used as the official residence of President Sam Nujoma.

Popular

Mandela, easily the most popular foreign guest at the independence party among ordinary Namibians, was housed with his wife Winnie in a luxury house in a new suburb of Windhoek.

Busy world statesmen who would normally expect private individuals to call on them have been making an exception for Mandela.

Those who followed Shevardnadze to Mandela's front door included West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh.

African leaders who met De Klerk included President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and

RABAT, (Reuters): With Namibia's independence on Wednesday, two tiny Spanish enclaves on Morocco's Mediterranean coast remain the only — an oldest — colonies in Africa.

Ceuta, population 71,000, and Melilla, population 55,000, were the last vestiges of colonialism, said Ahmed Alaoui, minister of state without portfolio and King Hassan's unofficial spokesman.

Spain abandoned a protectorate over north Morocco in 1956. It later left Ifni, the southern Tarfaya desert strip and the Western Sahara, occupied by Morocco in 1976.

"There are no colonial territories left in Africa... after the independence of Namibia, except on Morocco's Mediterranean coast," Alaoui wrote on Wednesday in the pro-government daily Le Matin.

"It is to be hoped the cities will not become museums of colonialism, and that like all other powers Spain will renounce her last colonies and return them to Morocco."

President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia. De Klerk also met President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and President Janz Drnovsek of Yugoslavia, chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

There are no signs Spain or Morocco will change their policies on the enclaves.

In Madrid, a spokesman for the Ministry of Public Administration said plans to give them a measure of self-rule were still being studied by Parliament.

The social government of

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzales, at times suspected by conservatives of planning to sell out the enclaves, hopes to push through the legislation by 1992, which diplomats say is likely to spark renewed protests from Morocco.

Moroccan claims to Ceuta and Melilla, pressed by long sieges down the centuries, were played down after Spain agreed in 1975 to evacuate its desert colony in Western Sahara where guerrillas are fighting Morocco for independence.

The enclaves have large military garrisons and were used as springboards by General Francisco Franco in the Spanish civil war which "makes them a very sensitive issue with the di-

hard military in Spain," a Spanish political analyst said.

King Hassan rules out using force to recover them or sending a "green march" like the 1975 assemblage when 350,000 Moroccan civilians walked into Western Sahara when it was still a Spanish colony.

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Letters to the editor

Expatriate agony

SIR: In his column (20.3.90) Zahed Matar has touched a very vital problem many expatriates are facing in Kuwait. In several cases, the expatriates have a serious problem of childless married life. When they live barren life even after several years of married life both, the husband and the wife undergo severe mental strain and tension, in some cases leading to deeper psychological problems.

Such expatriates, when they go on vacation to their countries, have short stay there and have to return to Kuwait to continue their life here. Only living together can solve this problem, as suggested by medical experts, and for this purpose, relaxation of the existing visa rules will be highly beneficial. If the salary limit is reduced many suffering expatriates will be able to bring their families to Kuwait and get a child to put an end to their mental agony.

Secondly, the existing rules state that all expatriates should return to Kuwait within six months, otherwise the residence will be cancelled. The authorities can consider this rule in the case of dependents like wife, mother, father, children, etc. If the authorities allow the dependents to stay for more than six months abroad it would be helpful for many people. When the working men should come back to continue in their jobs, the dependents may be allowed to stay longer.

Kaliq Jaman, Safat.

The Marcoses

SIR: The front page story carried by your newspaper on the trials of Imelda Marcos, is something which has raised several questions on international law and Bill of Rights. The trial itself has created a circus atmosphere surrounding the issues.

Flamboyant lawyer representing Imelda Marcos, Gerry Spence, considered one of the best trial lawyers in the United States and famous for his extraordinary appeal of winning juries with frank talks, the other day in New York city, before a pre-trial conference, raised an interesting question — "Where do we come off as being the guardians of morality and what gives us the right to try the head of states?"

Gerry Spence, has so far always represented the "little man" and has stood by him against the injustices of the system. His US national recognition came in 1970 when he represented the descendants of Karen Silkwood, who sued M.G. Corp. over plutonium contamination, and won large indemnities. Now, he

appearing in a Manhattan court with Imelda raises questions about how he can reconcile his ideals by representing a woman accused of plundering her country's wealth.

The criminal actions of the Marcoses were never challenged. No one questioned the legitimacy and the origin of the funds invested by them. Everyone was in for a big buck, the bankers and the agents; no one cared to stop their outrageous spending spree. This report was an unchallenged extravagance of dictators is a "carte blanche" and tacit approval for looting the national exchequer, which has so far never been questioned.

The subsistence of democratic values has made the challenge. No one questioned the legitimacy and the origin of the funds invested by them. Everyone was in for a big buck, the bankers and the agents; no one cared to stop their outrageous spending spree. This report was an unchallenged extravagance of dictators is a "carte blanche" and tacit approval for looting the national exchequer, which has so far never been questioned.

Gerry Spence's question that who has given the right to the United States to try Imelda Marcos can be answered on the basis of stolen money of the Philippines government, nearly most of it, which found its way to the United States through criminal racketeering schemes, therefore, there exists jurisdictional grounds.

The Constitution and Bill of Rights not only safeguards the interest and opinions of the Americans and mankind, which was the original intent of the nation's founders, but also provides on jurisdictional grounds the indictment of criminals who disregard the law of the nation.

The charges on the Marcoses of racketeering and concealing their assets being brought against them all happened in the United States.

Questions

Certainly some international questions shall be raised on the legality of the trial, especially relating to long-standing principles of international law and protocol, and the right to seize the assets will also be questioned, but the plunderers can only be countered by such extreme actions like, freezing their assets and making them unavailable the trophies of their abuse of power.

There is one minus side — a profound concern on national dignity and is seen fingerprinted, but the plus side of incorporating a sense of deterrence against the present squanderers outweighs the minuses.

No one has appointed the superpowers as the world political policeman, but the money squandered by the leaders usually ends up in countries of the West and it is these Western democracies who should help the poor of the Third World to retract their rightful possessions by identifying culprits and bringing them to surface for misuse and abuse of public trust during their term of office.

If they are condoned, then there is no reasonable check and they can escape with impunity. The defence of Imelda would argue the constitutional basis of this trial. But I am sure that the jury will look into the merits of the case and return the 500-odd million dollars to the people whom it rightly belongs to.

Iqbal Latif, Kuwait.

Airbus crash

SIR: Civil Aviation Ministry of India's latest investigation report about Airbus 320 crash at Bangalore has come to the conclusion that the accident was due to mechanical fault not human error. This report was based on digital flight-data recorder (DFDR) and cockpit-voice recorder (CVR) which was recovered from the accident-site without any damage. The DFDR and CVR indicated that the engine of Airbus 320 failed to respond the command of pilots and computer when the critical situation arose.

Soon after the accident an article appeared in the "Arab Times" (Letters to the Editor) by one Rao, blaming pilots' competence and accused that the pilots and the management of Indian Airlines were responsible for this tragic accident. How can a person come to a conclusion that the pilots were responsible without studying the nature and circumstances of the accident.

In this respect I really appreciate Iqbal Latif's article on the same subject. He had explained about the disadvantages of fly by wire technology and blamed glass cockpit and advanced computer for this crash. The report published yesterday proved the point made by Latif that pilots were unable to lift the plane, there seemed to be no manual control as the plane went down with warnings of "Sir, we are going down" the last words of the pilots were "Ob shift".

Recently the Association of Pilots in France expressed their concern about the safety of Airbus 320. I appreciate the decision of Civil Aviation Authority of India to ground all their Airbus 320 soon after the accident and the latest decision of Airbus not to operate Airbus 320s.

P. Jaya Prakash, Salmiya.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Legal squabbling benefits the Mafia

ROME, (Reuters): As the mafia builds an ever more powerful international empire, Italy's battle against the Sicilian criminal society is being crippled by squabbles among magistrates.

Investigators say the mob has completely recovered from the major blow struck by a mass trial in 1987 and is flourishing on the profits from a multi-billion dollar international narcotics business. There is growing alarm at its power and sophistication.

But Italy's ability to respond to this sinister expansion has been repeatedly undermined by the tendency of judges to fight each other instead of the mafia.

Climax

In the climax to a long war of attrition by his critics, Italy's top gang-busting official, anti-mafia commissioner Domenico Sica, is facing criminal charges of abuse of power that could put him in jail if convicted.

Sica, 58, formerly Italy's top anti-terrorism investigating judge and dubbed "Super Sica" by an admiring press, was appointed in a blaze of publicity and good intentions less than two years ago to coordinate a new drive against the resurgent mafia.

Now that drive is in shambles and the whole future of his office is in doubt. The special intelligence powers given to Sica to face a previous crisis in the war against the mafia appear to have sparked too many jealousies among other magistrates and Italy's myriad crime-fighting agencies.

"There is more war among the mafias of magistrates than against the mafia itself," said Labour Minister Carlo Donat Cattin.

"If we carry on like this we will undermine any credibility whatsoever of state bodies against crime and the mafia," said Giorgio La Malfa, leader of the Republican Party which is a junior party in Italy's coalition government.

The crisis is just the latest in a series of spectacular disputes among judges and crime fighters that have left only the mafia laughing.

Allegations

The charges against Sica followed close on the heels of sensational allegations by one of his former lieutenants, magistrate Francesco Di Maggio.

He accused judicial authorities of sabotaging Sica's investigations because he was getting close to powerful figures — the so-called mafia "third level" of crooked politicians and businessmen.

In February, Di Maggio and two other key aides were removed from Sica's office by the Superior Magistrates Council (CSM), Italy's highly politicised ruling judicial body, who said their intelligence role was inappropriate for the judiciary.

Di Maggio reacted by giving an extraordinary 100 minute interview on a television chat show in which he said the CSM had attacked Sica because he ignored political considerations when he appointed his men.

He suggested the move may also have been prompted by a complaint from a powerful figure who discovered his telephone was being secretly tapped by Sica's agents.

For at least two years, top anti-mafia fighters have repeatedly been weakened or removed from office by complex internal disputes among judges, a phenomenon which has led to allegations of deliberate sabotage.

The feud has been so bad that Palermo's Palace of Justice is known in the press as "the palace of poisons".

In the summer of 1988, Italy's most famous mafia fighter, Giovanni Falcone, was passed over for an obvious promotion in Sicily by the CSM.

Turmoil

The move caused a barely contained rebellion among his colleagues and months of debilitating turmoil in an elite pool of anti-mafia magistrates.

Last summer the war against Sicily's criminal clans again crumbled when a mysterious insider dubbed "The Crow" wrote anonymous letters making accusations against Falcone and colleagues.

Sica has been charged with abusing his powers in an effort to identify "The Crow" through clandestine finger print tests of a Palermo magistrate suspected of being the letter writer.

Insiders and commentators say the constant squabbling among magistrates is inevitable because of the political domination of the CSM, which is split into clearly defined factions.

Carmelo Conti, president of Palermo's Appeal Court, said recently that a magistrate seeking a promotion or transfer, is forced to tour round the leadership of the political parties represented on the CSM. This is an obvious pollution of the function of judges and permanent attack on its independence.

The mafia has frequently attacked senior investigators or judges when it feels the heat from inquiries. At least six of them have been killed in the last decade.

But for many months the clan bosses have kept the leash on their hit-men, apparently confident that with the present disarray among crime fighters they have nothing to fear.

Quote me

"I own the place, I paid cash, no cheque of mine ever bounced. I am doing good for Harrods and for tens of thousands of British employees, so why has the right to question the source of my money? I don't ask where my mother was born — bloody hell, if his cheque is good, why should I? So why do you jealous, envious, vicious people question my money?" — Egyptian owner of Harrods, Mohammed Fayed.

"Fears... persist that support for the reconstruction of Eastern Europe may absorb a significant share of private and public resources which otherwise might have gone to development finance. In most... developing countries, particularly in Africa and Latin America, per capita output has declined, and in many macroeconomic disorder has become entrenched." — UN Undersecretary-General Kenneth Daidzie.

"Our future must be one where personality is not stunted, creativity not repressed, people are not made into a tool of the state, but one where everyone can have a share of power earned through competence and trust." — Chairman of East German SPD to his party's founding congress in February.

"If this is the way it is the pros, it's going to be a lot of fun. Everytime I go out there, it's going to be a happy, thrilling. I don't know if I'll be the next American champion like everyone is saying, but I'll try." — American "teen-age tennis sensation" Jennifer Capriati.

Star misses finale

Yves Saint Laurent, 52, was hospitalised for exhaustion

Blame mom, and babies too

on March 24.

Doctors using 'Poems' to examine a baby.

No glitz, more elegance

from clashing with the gowns. He works closely with Fred Hayman, the show's fashion co-ordinator.

So sensitive is the equipment that it can detect a hearing loss however slight, and an auditory brainstem response device is then used to measure the degree of loss. Expert advice to parents and the early use of hearing aids will help children with hearing problems to develop language and speech.

Scientists in Britain are now studying the way in which this new equipment could help adults whose hearing is beginning to be damaged by noise at their workplace.

Look carefully at the number at the side of the group of animals. Colour in an equal number of animals.

A black and white line drawing of seven ducks. They are arranged in two rows: four in the back and three in the front. Each duck is facing left, has a simple beak, a small eye, and a large, rounded body with a small tail. They are standing on two legs each.

He said, "Bacon's going up."

JUNIOR TIMES

Wordsearch

FIX UP THE HOUSE

You've put it off for months, and the time has come to stop procrastinating! The house needs fixing, and it looks like an enormous job! If you don't know where to begin, our list will be of some help!

ADJUST	CLOSETS	LADDER	ROOF
ATTIC	CLUTTER	LAUNDRY	SCREENS
BASEMENT	CURTAINS	MATTRESS	SCRUB
BEDDING	DEFROST	MENO	SHINE
BLANKETS	DIRT	MIRRORS	SHINGLES
BLINDS	DRAIN	OIL	SOOT
BROOM	DRAPES	OVEN	STOVE
BRUSHES	FILTERS	PAINT	SWEEP
Wash CAR	FLOORS	PIANO	WASH
CEILINGS	GREASE	POLISH	WAX
CHIMNEY	KITCHEN	RAGS	WHITEWALLS
CHIMNEY		REPAIR	

Dear Junior Readers,

The weather is finally getting warmer. In fact, at noon it is really quite hot.

I am sure some of you have started the annual dispute over wearing a cardigan in the mornings. You probably think that even if it is a little chilly at seven thirty, being cold is much better than sweating later on. However, this sort of behaviour is very dangerous.

Your body is most prone to catching a cold in the early hours of the morning. This is because you have just come out of a snug bed and are not completely adapted to face the harsh cold weather outside.

You must try your best to keep as warm as you can when you leave to school. Cardigans can be kept in the classrooms during day. It is always easier to prevent a disease than to cure it.

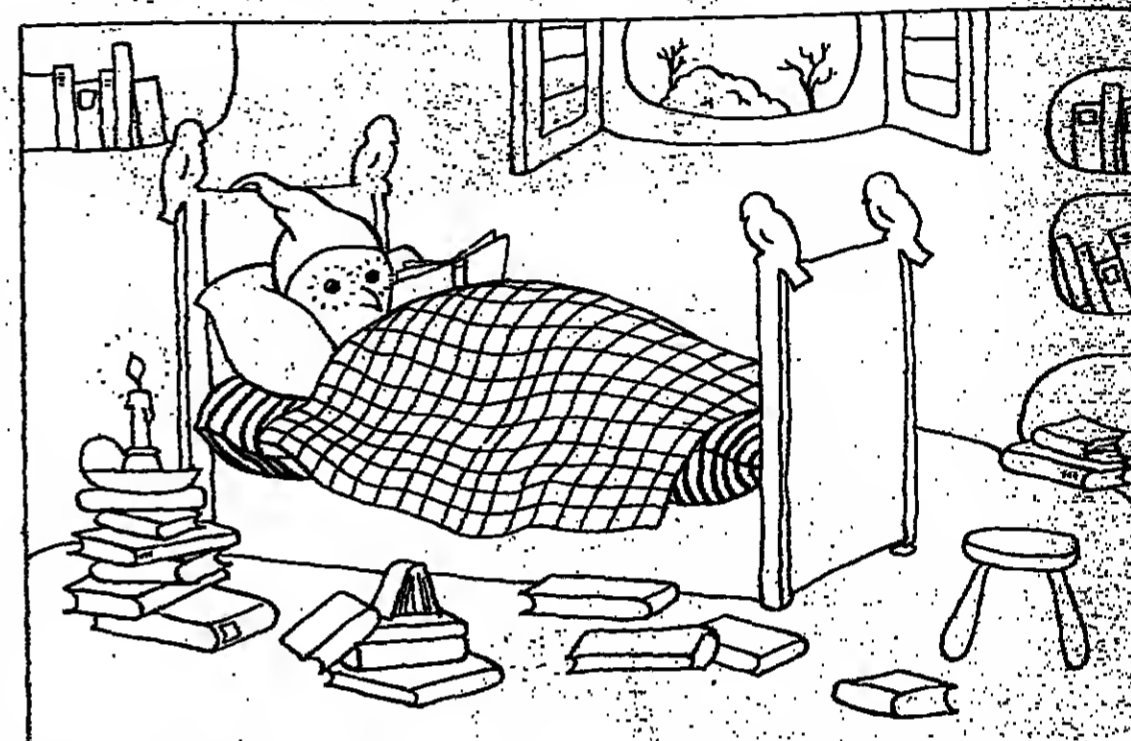
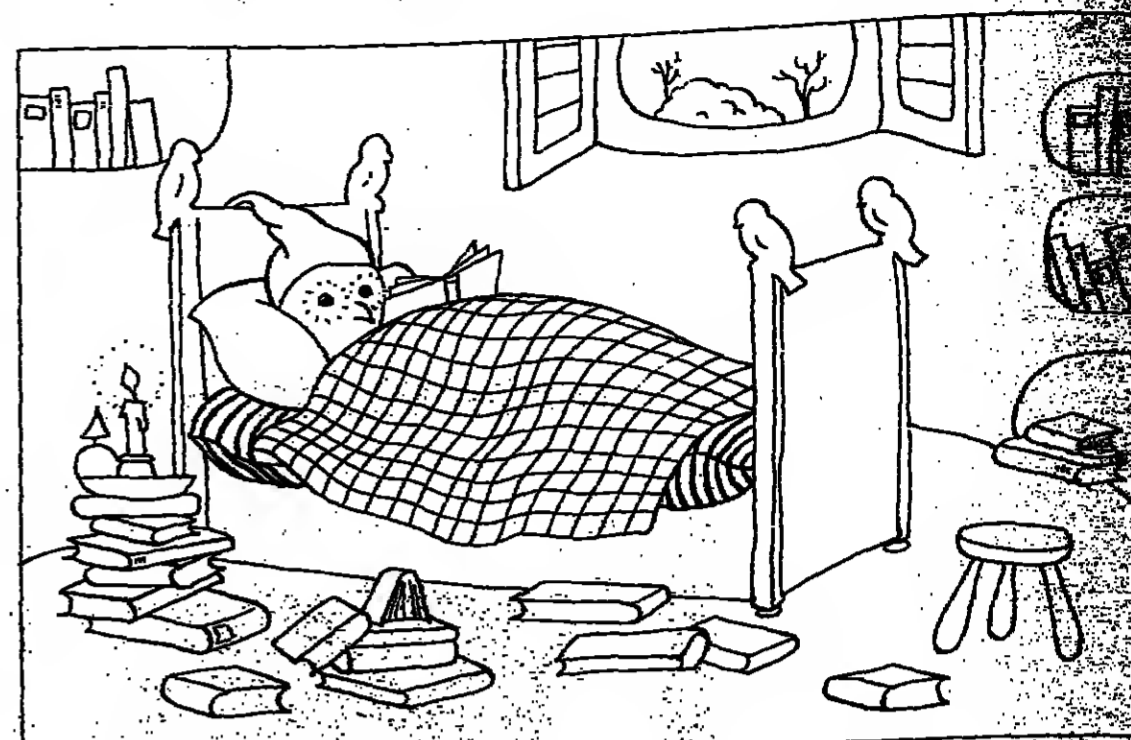
Manal

Put an X on the doll.



Spot the difference

Spot the six differences in the bottom picture.



Two's company

By Julie Hodgson

"Not that way stupid" yelled Thomas. "Well which way then?" shouted Scott, his brother.

The two boys were lost in a sandstorm. They were having a picnic with their family and they had wandered off just too far and ended up in a sandstorm. Scott even got caught in a small gible and was thrown over.

"OK let's try over there" suggested Thomas.

Scott and Thomas started to go towards the north, which was to their left of them, when suddenly they heard a car's horn, beeping really loud.

Being two very clever little 9-year-olds they decided to follow the horn. They were afraid but neither of them would show their fear to each other. All of a sudden Scott screamed, "Mind that scorpion!"

Thomas nearly jumped out of his skin, they both gave the scorpion a wide berth, and shuddered. The sound seemed to be

getting louder, so that meant they were nearer. Then the horn stopped, for a few seconds, the boys held their breath, and hoped that the horn would sound again.

Beeeeeeep Beeeep it went again, it seemed to be coming from just a few metres away, but with the sand being so thick in the wind they could not see very far.

At last the two boys reached the road, and lo and behold it was their parents' car. Their mother saw the two small figures emerge from the sand, and ran to them.

"Thank goodness" she cried. "After you disappeared we packed the car up and set off for the road. Dad decided to blow the horn, in the hope that you would follow it, you are very clever, we are so proud of you two," said their mother, close to tears.

As anyone knows that if you ever get lost in the desert, always try and find a road, that way someone is bound to come along. But one should never wander off in the desert alone, it's dangerous, as the two boys found out, but they were lucky, weren't they!!!!

Firsts and lasts

Jeans are called jeans because they were first made in the city of Genoa in Italy. The French name for that city is Genes.

The latest method the American Navy have used for recovering torpedoes which have been lost in deep water is by sending trained whales to retrieve them.

Charles II was the first British king to go to a public theatre. It was also in his reign that the first women were allowed to act the female parts in plays. Before then these parts were taken by young boys.

It was in 2700 BC that the world's first roads were built in China. But it was not until 1,000 years later that the first wheeled vehicles were invented.

In the year AD 603 the last Roman Senate met. It had been in power for over 1,000 years before that.

The idea of a tunnel under the English Channel is not as new as you might imagine; in Napoleon's reign it was first proposed. Eighty years later in 1880 it was rejected by the British because it would make Britain easier to attack.

The first dentists in Japan pulled teeth with their fingers. They had to practise to make their

fingers stronger to do so.

The first Cinderella did not wear glass slippers. That idea came from a mistranslation from the French. The words for 'squirrel fur' and that for 'glass' are similar in French: 'vair' and 'verre'. A glass slipper does sound more romantic though.

Sir Issac Newton was probably the greatest scientist the world has ever known. The legend of his discovery of gravity by watching an apple fall is one of the few legends that are true. But Newton left school as a teenager to follow his first choice of career; to be a farmer.

Football was first played by the Chinese in

about 350 BC. It was called 'Tsu Chu'. It was played in England from the twelfth century but no rules were used until 1846.

In 1709 the first recorded ascent in a hot air balloon took place in Portugal — inside the Casa da India.

Laslo Biro invented the first ball-point pen that was successful. He was in fact a Hungarian hypnotist and not an inventor. In 1959 when the first throw-away bios were sold in the shops over 55 million were sold in the first year.

Frank Wooton was England's leading jockey from 1909 to 1912. He won his first race when he was only nine years old.

Amazing facts

Maclean's took 579 years to build and seats a congregation of 2,000.

The official name for Libya is 'Splay', the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The archer fish can hit an insect up to 122 cm away with drops of water squirted from its mouth.

It takes 5 tons of rock to produce a piece of gold the size of a trouser button.

The nineteenth chapter of the Second Book of Kings and the thirty-seventh chapter of Isaiah are almost identical.

Following one of his victories the fourteenth-century Turkish chief Tamerlane built 120 pyramids containing the heads of 80,000 of the defeated enemy.

Oliver Cromwell won two important battles on September 3 — those of Worcester and Dunbar. He also died on September 3, 1658.

When the Hong Kong Jockey Club racecourse collapsed and caught fire in February 1918, 604 people were killed.

Nadia Comaneci, a 14-year-old Romanian gymnast, received 7 perfect marks in the 1976 Olympics.

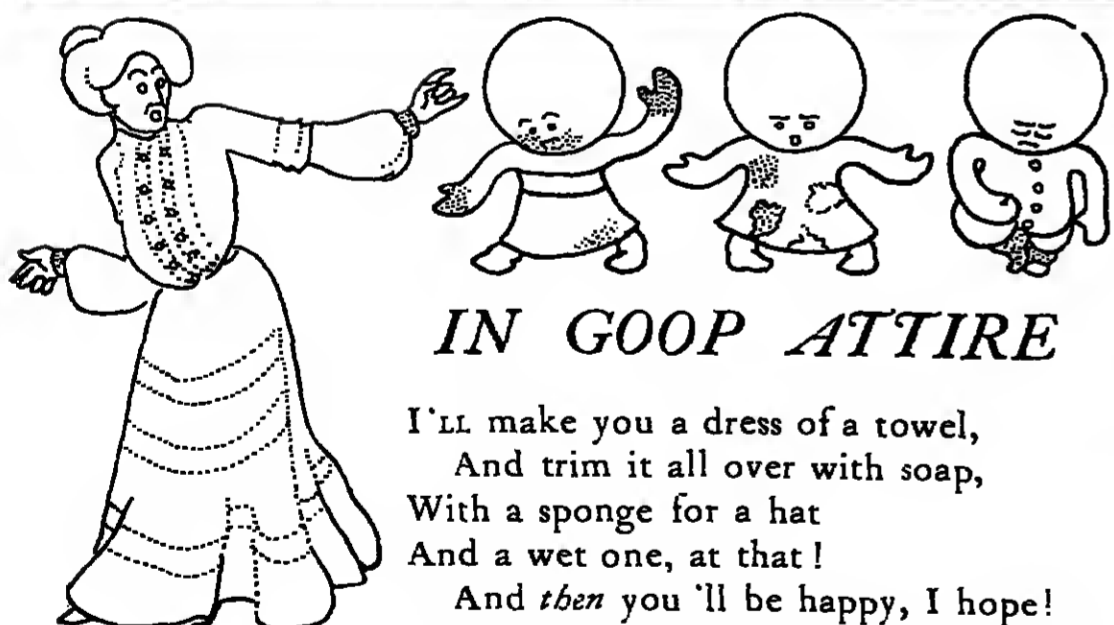
The largest non-Christian religion is Islam with about 550,000,000 followers.

The first adhesive postage stamps (the Penny Blacks) came into use in England on May 6, 1840.

A Doberman dog once tracked a stock thief 100 miles by scent alone across the Great Karroo, South Africa.

Flies take off with a backward jump.

The Goops again

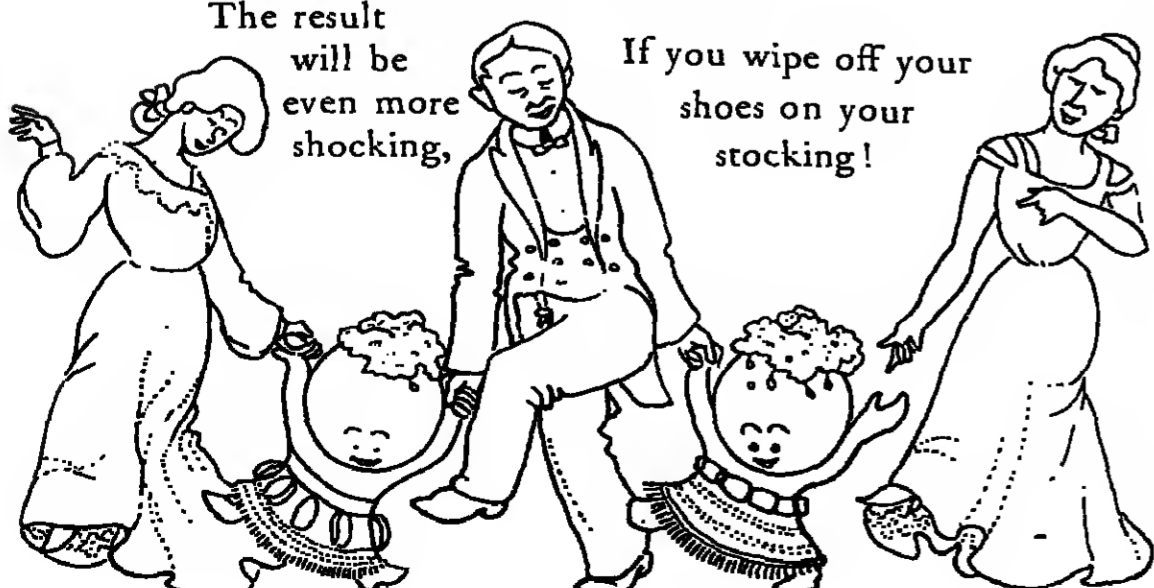


IN GOOP ATTIRE

I'll make you a dress of a towel,
And trim it all over with soap,
With a sponge for a hat
And a wet one, at that!
And then you'll be happy, I hope!
You may act like a Goop, if you please,
In garments constructed like these!

But now, while you're dressed up so neatly,
Don't wipe off your hands on your frock!
The smooching that lingers
When you wipe off your fingers,
Will give your dear mother a shock!

The result
will be
even more
shocking,
If you wipe off your
shoes on your
stocking!



Shake 'n Break

A force that changes the Earth's surface is **RUNNING WATER**. Running water can carry tiny pieces of rock with it as it moves. The moving pieces of rock crash into bigger rocks, breaking away more tiny rock pieces. This action wears down the bigger rocks.

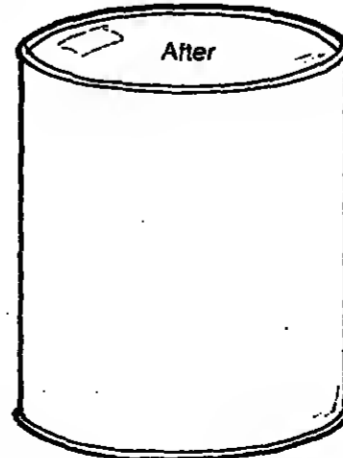
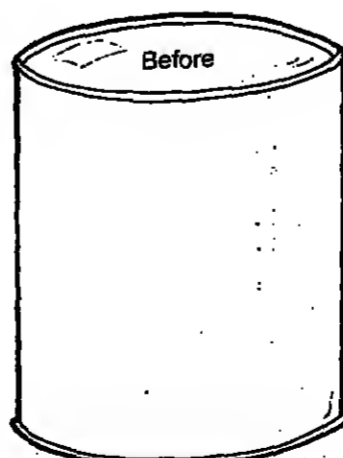
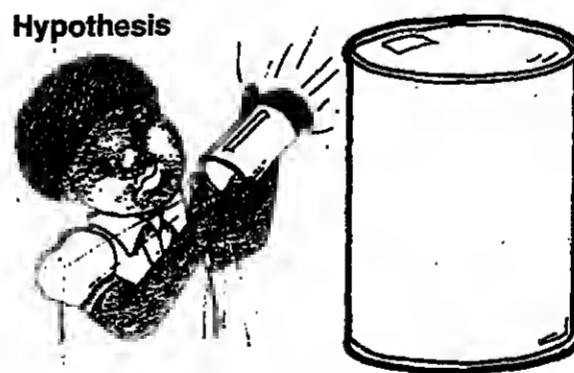
? What will happen to the water and 10 rocks in a can if it is shaken 1,000 times? Draw your idea.

Materials Needed: 10 rocks, water, can with lid

Procedure:

1. Work in groups.
2. Put 10 rocks into a large coffee can with a lid. Fill the can 1/2 full with water and cover the can. Draw a picture of what it looks like inside the can.
3. Each group member shakes the can 100 times, then passes it to the next member to shake. Keep doing this until the can has been shaken 1,000 times. Draw a picture of what it looks like inside the can.

Hypothesis



Results and Conclusions

1. What happened to the water and rocks?
2. Is that what you thought would happen?
3. What did you learn?

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name: _____
Date of birth: _____
School: _____

Telephone: _____
(confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Send to:
ARAB TIMES
Junior Times
P.O. Box 2270
13023, Safat,
Kuwait
To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

COMPUTERS AND OFFICE AUTOMATION

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Huge computer system

Automated trading operations at Kuwait Stock Exchange

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE has always been a pioneer among the financial markets in the Gulf area. It has always maintained this position by adopting advanced techniques and regulations. One of the leading projects KSE is presently undertaking is the introduction of "Kuwait Automated Trading System, KATS" which is a large scale computer-based system that fully automates all operations of securities trading. In a highly demanding and time-sensitive trading environment, the system caters for the diversified and complex needs of the investors, the brokers and the stock exchange management.

"The system will computerise all the brokers activities related to buying and selling of shares and also the deal execution on the trading hall" said Mohammed Borisly, the Data Processing Manager of the Kuwait Stock Exchange. He continued, "All these operations will become faster and more accurate while at the same time the system ensures strict compliance with trading rules and regulations. This simply means better and more responsive service to investors. On the other hand, the system will be an effective tool for the stock exchange management to exercise effective control and perform close monitoring and surveillance of trading operations."

Requirements

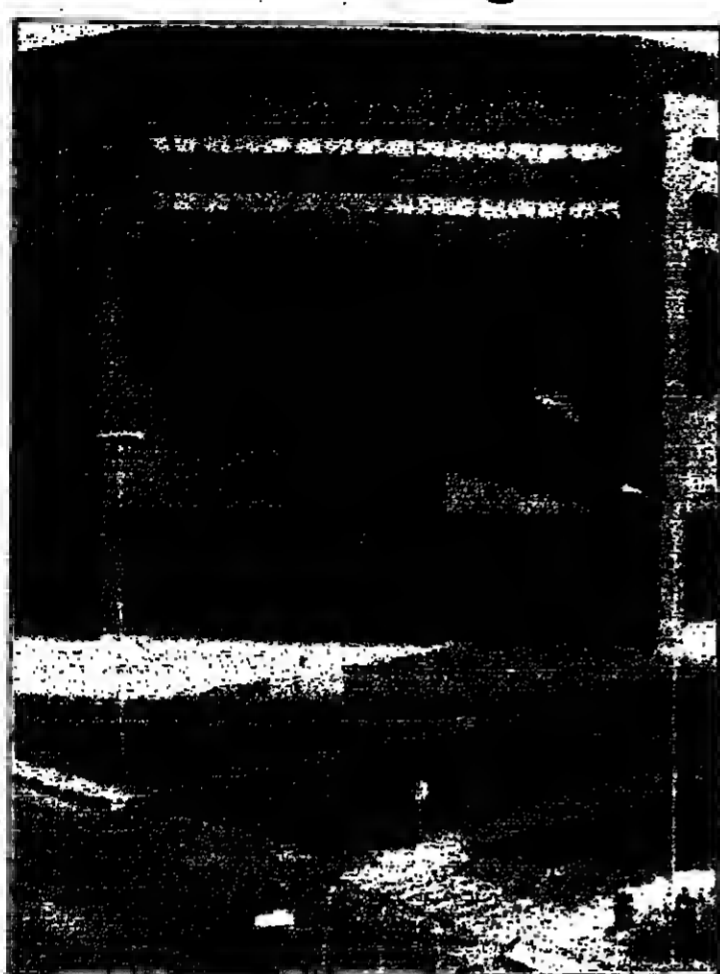
The user requirements for this system are highly demanding. During the trading sessions the investors and brokers are always eager for timely information and quick action. Peaks of trading activities always occur where thousands of transactions take place at the same time. A minute by minute control must be exercised by the regulatory bodies based on most up-to-date information. Trading data, marketing information and analytical figures must be displayed and disseminated to a variety of users.

Reporting and history information are needed by several authorities. "Given all these requirements" said Borisly "We have laid down the overall design of the system with strict specifications to ensure the highest performance and reliability. Before putting the specifications we had also looked into the latest available systems and technologies, and studied the systems in use at all the major exchanges in the world. It is essential for us that our system benefits from the accumulative experience of the international markets and uses the most advanced tools and techniques."

System

Kuwait Stock Exchange has assigned this project to a consortium of local and international companies. The consortium is headed by Mohamed Abdul Rahman Al Bahar, UNISYS Computer Division. It also includes Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, a UK-based management consultancy and auditing firm, and Korea Securities Computer Corporation - "KOSCOM," a company specialised in developing, implementing and running computer software for stock exchanges and securities companies.

Medhat Ennarah, General Manager of Mohamed Abdul Rahman Al Bahar - UNISYS Computer Division said, "In order to meet the diversified requirements of the project and produce the highest quality of



The Stock Exchange building in downtown Kuwait



Steve Shurety.



Mohammed Borisly.

work we have put together this consortium that comprises companies with high reputation, in-depth knowledge and experience, and history of contributions and achievements in applying high-tech information systems to the financial and securities industry."

The computer system to be installed is built around a powerful UNISYS 2200/400 dual processor CPU, backed by another CPU as a hot-standby to secure non-stop operations. A large variety of UNISYS peripherals, communication processors, and user terminals are attached. Four electronic display boards will be supplied by Bongoh, a South Korean company. The overall configuration when installed will be one of the largest computer sites in the Middle East.

Quality

"The Application Software will be built around UNISYS-DMS proprietary database management system" explained Ennarah. "It will make full use of the advanced features of UNISYS software such as the query language, the security system, and videotex software," he added. Ennarah advised that the application software, which is a major and most important part of the project, will be developed by KOSCOM. This company has more than 15 years of experience in the development of application software totally dedicated to the stock markets and securities industry. Their software is used by Korean Stock Exchange, one of the busiest exchanges in the world. While making use of

their existing software, KOSCOM will develop the application to meet all the detailed specifications of Kuwait Stock Exchange.

Steve Shurety, Project Manager from Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, said "We are responsible for the preparation of the functional specifications of the system and for the overall project management and quality assurance." He continued, "In a multi-disciplined project like this, there is an essential need for effective and comprehensive project management. The project duration is also very tight which necessitates very good control to avoid time overruns. To that end we are applying our standard project management approach and using a computer-based planning and control model."

Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte are also providing their software development methodology "SUMMIT-D". Their quality assurance experts are closely monitoring the work-in-progress to assure compliance with the design standards and maintain the highest quality through the development process. "We must ensure top quality of the end product" said Shurety. "Hence, we have to apply very strict quality assurance procedures during all phases of the project."

The project has been under way now for five months. Rajan Daniel, the Project Director from Mohamed Abdul Rahman Al Bahar, said that the progress of work is very pleasing. He showed high confidence of meeting the target date and completing the project to the highest standards of quality.

Information exchange through Gulfnet

GULFNET is the first computer network in the Arab world which connects central computers located in the academic and research institutions in the Arab Gulf countries to facilitate the exchange of information between scientists and researchers in the region. The network was established in May, 1985 with the assistance of IBM and links various modes through public leased telephone lines. A central computer in each country is to provide connectivity to the principal node at King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (Saudi Arabia) and also provides some central services to other nodes. At the present time, eleven universities and research institutions in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are connected to GULFNET and few more are expected to join shortly.

GULFNET is a store-and-forward network and is similar to BITNET (USA) and EARN Europe in conceptual design and some other characteristics. It will, therefore, be helpful if we look at these two major networks in order to have a better understanding of GULFNET.

BITNET was established in 1981 following a survey carried out by the City University of New York (CUNY) of 50 universities located on the eastern coast of the United States asking their opinion about the need for an easy-to-use and economical network for inter-university communication.

The response was overwhelmingly positive and the first BITNET link between CUNY and Yale University was established in May 1981. Since then, over 1,400 computers in 400 member institutions have been connected to the network.

Remote Spooling Communication Subsystem (RSCS) protocols were selected by BITNET for its communication systems since most of the institutions who had initially joined the network had IBM computers running under VM/SP systems. Besides, RSCS was considered adequate to support a large network as it was being used by IBM for its own network. It may, however, be pointed out that BITNET is not restricted to IBM computers only. Any computer with a software package installed which emulates a remote station and communicates using RSCS protocols can become a BITNET node. In fact, several VAX and CDC Cyber range computers are attached to BITNET.

Success of BITNET in the United States stimulated in interest of several European academic and research institutions in connecting their computers and fostering inter-university communication links between themselves and their counterparts in America. At this point, IBM offered its support and established the European Academic and Research Network (EARN) in February of 1984.

The role of IBM was to initiate the network, provide financial and technical support during its developmental stages and to promote the network internationally. Uses of EARN included electronic mail, data and programme exchange, computer conferencing, access to remote applications, database enquiries and updates and remote access to libraries.

The main goal of EARN was to provide the European academic community with a computer network for academic and research institutions throughout Europe. The emphasis of EARN according to IBM, was on science, research and education rather than on network technology.

EARN attracted the attention of a large number of universities and research institutions in several European countries and within a period of three years

about 400 nodes were established in various countries of Europe including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom. EARN was later connected to BITNET to allow increased communication across the Atlantic.

Objectives by Gulfnet

The main purpose of establishing GULFNET was to provide an infrastructure to facilitate the exchange of data, information and messages between scientists and researchers in the Arab Gulf countries who have access to computers connected to the network. Other objectives were to stimulate informal communication and promote co-operation in research projects.

Characteristics

GULFNET selected the same technology as that used for BITNET and EARN. It is a store-and-forward network and utilizes the transmission techniques of the JES2/JES3 or RSCS subsystems of the IBM computing system HVS and VM respectively. Emulation could be made available for several other non-IBM systems. For example, VAX-1 computers running under the VMS operating system and using JETNET software appear to be IBM computers running under VM/SP and can be connected to the network.

Governance

The network is open to non-profit academic and research institutions in the Arab Gulf region and is managed by the member institutions. A steering committee consisting of representatives from participating nodes formulates rules and regulations for the governance of the network. The

technical committee implements all facilities and services of the network, monitors its performance and maintains statistics on load and line. The awareness committee is responsible for promoting the use of network facilities.

Uses

GULFNET is being used by its members for the transfer of data, files, programmes and other communication. A multi-purpose user-friendly electronic mail system was designed to allow transmission of pre-defined form(s) from one node to the other. Users of KACST's information services utilise this facility to send their requests for online searching. KACST, on its part, conducts searches on national and international data bases and transmits the search results to requestors through the network. KACST also utilises network facilities to distribute its weekly current awareness bulletin to about sixty outside subscribers via GULFNET.

The principal node at KACST has also installed a server machine on its computer called NETSERV which contains information on the network, location of nodes, users' names and addresses, procedures to communicate with each other and general advice on how to use the network facilities. All users of the network can access NETSERV by entering a command line.

Users of GULFNET can also send interactive messages to their colleagues who are logged on to the same computer or to another computer connected with the network. The network has greatly enhanced the capabilities of the academia and researchers affiliated with different institutions in the region to work on joint projects and collaborate in writing scientific papers. They can also use conferencing and bulletin

board facilities available in the system.

One of the most important uses of the network facilities is the area of online searching of national and international data bases. KACST is now accessing hundreds of data bases available through DIALOG, BRS, ORBIT, STN, NEWSNET, LEXIS, NEXIS AND IRS/ESA and is conducting over 3,000 searches each year for users in the kingdom. This service is provided free of charge to all scientists and researchers without any regard to their location and affiliation. GULFNET facilities are utilized by KACST to receive search requests and to transmit the search results. In addition, GULFNET member institutions can also search the following national data bases produced by KACST:

Science and Technology Bibliographic Data Base (English)
This data base covers all the scientific documents written by Saudi nationals, published in Saudi Arabia, funded by Saudi agencies and/or of interest to Saudi Arabia. There are about 38,500 records in this data base and each record contains full bibliographic data, detailed abstract and several descriptors. The data base covers all types of documents including journals, articles, technical reports, government documents, books and theses. It is updated every week and approximately 5,000 records are added to the data base each year.

Science and Technology Bibliographic Data Base (Arabic)
This unique bibliographic data base in the Arab world contains over 19,000 records relating to scientific and technical literature in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Like its English counterpart it contains all types of documents

written by Saudi Arabian nationals, published in Saudi Arabia and/or of interest to Saudi Arabia. Each record includes full bibliographic data and descriptors. The data base is updated weekly and approximately 2,500 records are added each year.

Manpower Data Base
To meet the planning and developmental requirements of the kingdom, KACST produces and maintains a manpower data base which provides critical information about scientific and professional personnel available in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The data base contains over 8,000 records.

Union List of Periodicals Data Base

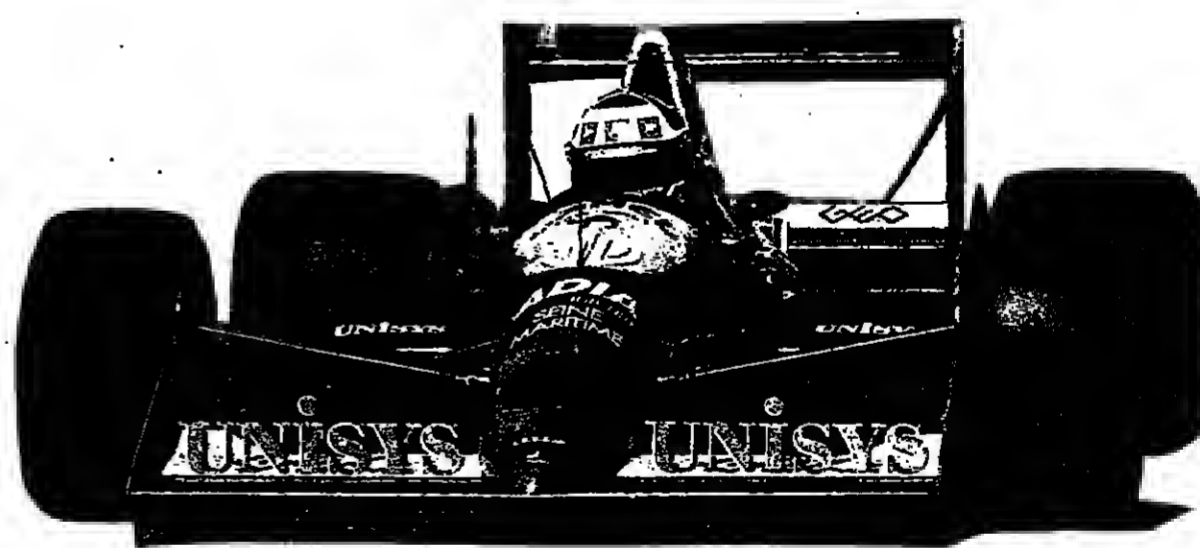
The Union List of Periodicals Data base provides information about serial titles held by the university and special libraries in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. About 13,400 records have already been entered in this data base which is available for online searching from any remote location in the Gulf region through the network facilities. KACST is now computerising the Union List of Arabic Periodicals compiled by the King Saud University Library in 1986.

This list will also be made available to network member institutions for online searching.

Current Awareness Data Base

Originally designed as a by-product of the current awareness service provided by KACST library, this data base contains about 100,000 references to articles published in various journals subscribed by King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology. A customised weekly bulletin is distributed to about 150 users, out of which about 50 users are affiliated to GULFNET member institutions.

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High-speed network links scientists across Atlantic

US and European scientists will be able to compare notes across the Atlantic with a new, high-speed data link unveiled by the National Science Foundation.

The foundation announced recently that it was extending the nation's largest computer network used in science and education, NSFNET, to Europe, thanks to support from International Business Machines Corp. and MCI Communications Corp.

Stephen Wolff, a division director of the foundation, said

the New Trans-Atlantic link will speed the exchange of information in areas such as global weather changes, mapping the human gene, analysing reactions in particle physics and predicting weather. European and US researchers will be able to exchange information at the network speed of 1.5 million bits per second, or almost 200,000 characters per second. That is the equivalent of about 50 single spaced pages of text a second. But even that blinding speed — news agencies transmit text

at 150 characters per second, and facsimile machines can reach 1,200 characters per second — is not enough for today's computer networks to handle sophisticated graphics from several locations at once.

Later this year, NSFNET should go to 45 million bits per second, about 5.6 million characters per second, in the United States, according to the announcement of the new network at the National Net '90 Networking Conference.

The trans-Atlantic fibre optic

cable will remain limited to 1.5 million bits per second.

Network officials demonstrated prototype equipment that transmitted information between Washington and Ann Arbor, Michigan at 45 million bit per second.

"It is clear that this kind of collaboration has the potential to speed up the research process and lead us to new scientific breakthroughs that today we cannot even imagine," said Wolff.

Quality



Service

Ethics in battling the virus

By Steven Brull

WHEN Robert Morris, a post-graduate student at Cornell University, was charged with planting a computer virus in a major scientific network in 1988, many people gleefully identified with him as a seeming underdog.

But computer experts said such an attitude shows ignorance of the true hazards of computer viruses and the thorny technical and legal issues they pose.

"Technical measures against viruses are very limited. So the biggest strides will be in ethics — convincing people that electronic crime is bad," said Stanley Kurzban of International Business Machines (IBM).

Computer viruses are programmes that, when entered into a computer, execute instructions of the programmes author. These instructions might just be to display a humorous message. But viruses can also erase files, alter stored data or replicate themselves repeatedly until a computer system is overwhelmed.

Potential danger growing

They are called viruses because they can jump from file to file in a computer and from computer to computer in a network. They are undetectable to the average user until activated.

The virus planted by Morris, whose father is a computer security expert at the US National Security Agency, entered Internet, a network of more than 150,000 computers used by scientists and the military around the world.

Such networks are used for publishing, storing and communicating data.

The virus was responsible for damage estimated at tens of millions of dollars and brought important scientific research to a halt before it was identified and stopped.

Morris was convicted in January of violating the 1986 Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and awaits sentencing. He could get up to five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. The Morris virus was unusual. Most have been

confined to personal computers and have done little real damage.

Their intent has been more malicious than pernicious, a reflection of the youthfulness of most perpetrators, computer enthusiasts known as "hackers."

Dangers

The potential danger, however, is great and growing as an era of personal computing done in isolation gives way to large-scale networking, opening up new channels for viruses to spread.

"We need to change our image of the perpetrator from one of the graduate student playing a prank to one of a villain. It could be organised crime, banks or big corporations," said Fred Weingarten, senior associate of the US Congressional Office of Technology Assessment.

"We need to think about the potential of organised crime. I would be astounded if organised crime wasn't interested in the potential of these systems and

networks," said Weingarten.

Perfect technical solutions are theoretically possible but they would be extremely expensive or would impose unacceptable restrictions on computer access, according to experts interviewed here at a recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

While the computer industry and governments consider their options, hackers have been organising conferences and publishing manuals.

"For \$1,000 you can buy a personal computer and books on hacking," said Lance Hoffman, a professor of computer science at George Washington University.

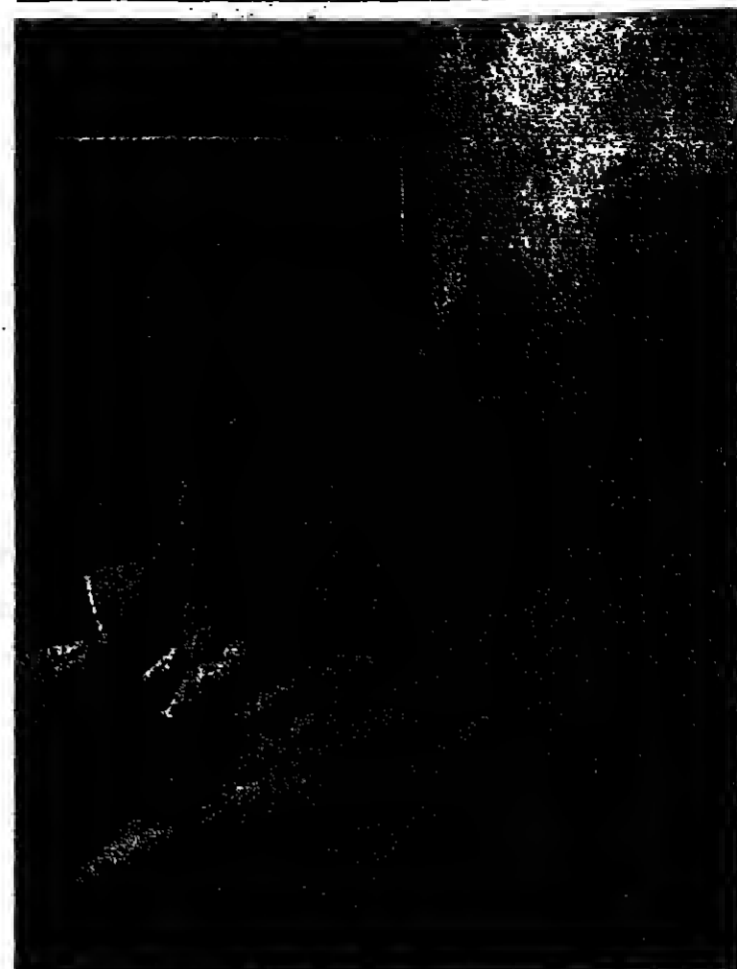
"The last 30 to 40 years we operated in a vacuum. The computer industry has to come of age and live by the rules everybody else does," Hoffman said.

"Computer systems of the future can and should have certain anti-viral protection built in as standard equipment. Like seat belts, these safeguards won't offer perfect protection, but computers with them will be a lot safer."

Computer crime

Fraud estimates run into billions

Everyone is against computer crime, but no one seems to know what it is or how much there is. Hugo Cornwall reports on the curious lack of reliable data



THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry in the UK in figures released just before the Second Reading of Michael Colvin's Computer Misuse Bill, says it has verified 270 computer crime incidents over the last five years, of which only six had been brought to court.

Until recently the most frequently cited figure for the annual cost of computer crime has been £400 million, but now Colvin himself quotes estimates as high as £2 billion. But is any of them correct or useful, in the sense in which we normally accept statistics?

First, "crime" does this mean an activity for which there is a prescribed penalty, or merely behaviour which, in the opinion of the speaker, is socially damaging? If the DTI accepts the legal definition, its statistics show nothing except that enforcement of the law in the area of computer crime has a very poor record.

Next, "computer crime" take the same legal-literal approach and you are limited to breaches of the Data Protection Act. Once beyond this you have an almost unlimited flexibility in casting the net over as small or large a portion of the sea of white collar crime as suits your motive for wanting to collect the statistics in the first place.

You could follow the veteran US computer security consultant, Robert Courteney Jnr, and say there has to be a direct manipulation of computer files, otherwise the enterprise is an ordinary crime with an incidental computer element. If so, most of the multi-million pound electronic funds transfer frauds aren't computer crimes.

Banks like this interpretation so that they can argue that their computer systems, as such, are secure. So do senior police officers who are defending the very small size of their specialist manpower. On this definition, too, you exclude most of the simple hacking cases, as the hacker has simply used, or invented, a password to which he is not entitled.

At the other extreme, "computer crime" could include

nearly all frauds occurring in computer-using companies, as well as anything untoward which occurs in companies that happen to be in the computer hardware or software business.

Most of my colleagues in the security business prefer such generous interpretations. Once you have your definition, how do you collect your statistics? Computer crime isn't a notifiable offence in the sense that a return is required for inclusion in the annual official Criminal Statistics.

Indeed, computer fraud is usually prosecuted under the Theft Acts, and other crimes are

dealt with by the Criminal Damage Act or the Official Secrets Act. Modus operandi is not recorded. Perhaps the place to go is the specialist computer press in the hope that their coverage is exhaustive and accurate.

Estimating the costs of computer crime gives another opportunity for creative flexibility.

Only two police forces, the Metropolitan and the City of London, collate figures for fraud of any kind, and they don't entirely agree how it should be done. The favoured formula is "sum at risk," which

can include items that were not part of a formal prosecution. But costs can also include consequential loss to victims, for example treating suspected "virus" infections. How far down the chain of causation do you go? And once you have your preferred formula, how do you collect the statistics?

The opportunities for figure finding reach their peak when we get to the issue of unreported crime. The regular Home Office-sponsored British Crime Surveys are the only attempt that is made at researching the reported crime; they have never covered any form of white collar crime. Where, then, does this figure of £400 million come from? Reporters quote the Confederation of British Industry, but it does not claim to have done any fundamental work. They quote the London Business School, but a visit to the LBS library shows no relevant published research. Two years ago, much of the press associated insurance brokers Hogg Robinson with a £400 million estimate. Have seen their report. Actually it is a review of the results of fifty or so computer security surveys and the poor quality of management they found. And their figure is only £40 million.

Also, they give that figure in passing, without further attribution, and without claiming they could sustain it. "We were being deliberately conservative," David Davies, the report's author, says today. A year or so before that and you find Dr Ken Wong, on the publication of one of his Casebooks, being pressed by the press into a reluctant estimate of £300 million. Later reports don't bother to mention his reluctance.

The DTI's figures, incidentally, turn out to be a compilation mostly based on earlier published reports from consultants and the Audit Commission; they too haven't done any original research.

Hugo Cornwall's book *Data Theft* has just been updated (*Mandarin* in paperback, £5.99).

By David Manners

THIS year's International Solid State Circuits Conference — the world's top platform for announcing new developments in microchips, held every February in San Francisco — marked a year of incremental rather than dramatic advance.

Although most ISSCCs have at least one example of an emerging generation of dynamic RAM (random access memory) chips, this year's conference did not improve on the 16-megabit ones shown in 1989. Next year will see the first 64-megabit chips.

However, there was plenty of action among the microprocessors, whose power is exploding. Their performance and transistor-count has doubled in 12 months from an average of 29 mips (millions of instructions per second) to an average 58 mips. Advances in microprocessor technology have been proceeding faster than in other kinds of microchip, which

Meeting of megabits

probably means that companies are paying more attention to micros.

Traditions

The microprocessor market is seen as more open to new participants and ideas than it has been for many years. Until recently the received industry wisdom was that the established position of the traditional microprocessor makers (Intel, Motorola) and the large installed software base, made them impregnable.

One example of this expansiveness is a new microprocessor architecture shown for the first time at the 1990 ISSCC by Philips/Sigmetics: the VLIW (very long instruction word — looger thao 64 bit) microprocessor. The chairman of the microprocessor session, Jim Slager of Sun Microsystems, said that VLIW architecture "may result in an entire new wave of chips which

would rival the recent wave of Risc chips."

Another radical departure in microprocessors was a move away from the industry-standard 5V power supply. IBM and DEC gave papers on 3.6V and 3.3V microprocessors respectively. It is expected that a new, lower, industry standard will become accepted.

The rapid increase in the performance of microprocessors affects all the other types of chip. A speeded-up microprocessor makes it necessary to have speeded-up chips surrounding it if the full benefit is to follow through into the products into which they are built.

The static RAMs at the 1990 ISSCC were extremely fast and surprisingly low-powered, which suggests they have been designed with portable equipment in mind. It appears that the Japanese companies

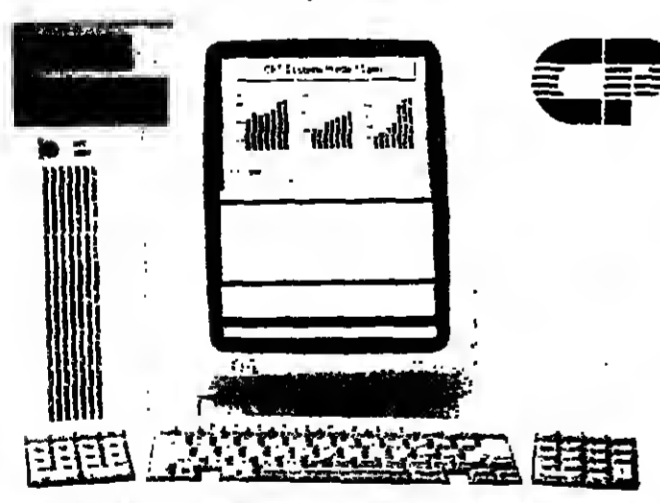
NEC, Toshiba, Hitachi and Mitsubishi, who all gave papers on 4Mbit S-RAMs, see lap-top computers and portable instrument applications as the way the market is going.

That may also explain why the chips were made in pure CMOS rather than the faster, but more power-consuming, BiCMOS technology which many have expected to supersede CMOS as the mainstream technology for making S-RAMs.

There were BiCMOS S-RAMs at the conference, and they were three times faster than the pure CMOS S-RAMs, but they were at the earlier 1 Mbit-density generation. For the moment, CMOS is the technology which delivers the best trade-off between density, power and speed, and BiCMOS remains a technology whose time has not yet come.

Another chip which is being pushed by the rapid microprocessor advances to attain faster speeds is the EPROM.

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UNIX sheds problems

THE recently held Unix forums, both in Washington and Kuwait, have given Unix users the promise that the operating system is finally shedding its problems and moving to its full potential. The Unix forum 1990 conference in Washington has been seen as the industry's fresh start for the new decade encompassing debate and resolutions on a guide map to future Unix development, prospects for a Unix breakout into business applications, network products and strategies, and the closing of technology gaps.

Unix International, the advisory group made up of Unix System V users and AT & T, released its Road Map, the document that is meant to guide Unix development for the future. The highlights of the Road Map include staged releases of System V, enhancement of features such as increased security, and plans for symmetric multiprocessing, transaction processing and distributed computing. At the same time, the Open Software Foundation unveiled its own rival version of Unix. Early working versions of OSF/1, based on the Mach kernel developed in the US, have been shipped to foundation members. HP, IBM, and DEC, all members of the foundation, have publicly expressed their intentions to switch from their current Unix system to OS/1.

There were several announcements at the show giving the impression that Unix is using its networking capabilities to expand into commercial, financial and business circles. System strategies revealed what it claims is the first Unix-based product to utilise the common programming interface for communications from IBM. Several manufacturers announced Unix implementations of the OSI X.400 email standard. Touch communications released Touch/MP Fastport/OSI streams, a product that allows Unix V.3 systems to communicate via OSI protocols. A full set of OSI-based communications products for the Unix-based NCR Tower family was unveiled by the company, including X.400, FTAM and X.500 directory services.

Finally, there was evidence of progress towards complete and efficient running of the system. Vendors demonstrated products that bring some new features to the Unix world: transaction processing and fault tolerance. On-line transaction processing (OLTP) for Unix is the latest growth area for the operating system. Bull and Unisys are trying to capitalise on their long-time proprietary OLTP experience by introducing these products onto the Unix market later this year.

Stamp graphics

By Margaret Laing

A SET of special Royal Mail stamps described as a marvel of the high technology age has been produced, marking this year's silver jubilee of the Queen's Awards for Export and Technology.

Designed by London artist Simon Broom, the stamps have been manufactured using a pioneering computer graphics design system, known as Paintbox. Producing complex artwork in a fraction of the normal time, it was developed by Quantel Ltd of Newbury, west of London, which itself received the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement in 1988.

The highest honours that can be bestowed on British firms, the Queen's Awards have been given since 1965 to more than 2,500 winners. Those for export have spanned goods as diverse as tractors, computers, cars, whisky, smoked salmon and custard, as well as banking, insurance and hotels. The hit musical shows "Cats" and "Starlight Express," both international stage successes, were also among the winners.

Technology awards have been given to companies making life-saving drugs, teletext information services, disease-resistant potatoes, artificial limbs, and thermal imaging cameras used to save lives in natural disasters as far apart as Mexico and Armenia.

Small firms have fared particularly well in the honours — in 1989 some 60 per cent of winners were in this category. This year's winners will be announced on 21 April, Queen Elizabeth II's 64th birthday.

Europe — The new battleground for high pitch sales

EUROPE accounted for almost half of 1988's world-wide sales of nearly \$50 billion-worth of personal computers. With pundits predicting that sales of PCs in the United States will grow by a mere 5 per cent this year, Europe's proportion is sure to rise. By the end of 1990, the continent could account for as much as 60 per cent of the market.

Shipments to Europe of personal computers have doubled during the past three years, and are expected nearly to double again by 1994, according to a Dataquest, a specialist research organisation. The buoyancy of the European market is the result of relative backwardness. In America there are three PCs for every ten office workers; in Europe there are still only three for every 20 office workers. In an effort to catch up, the European market grew in 1988 by 50 per cent and last year by a further 40 per cent. Dataquest reckons that resulted in total sales for the year of \$22.5 billion.

PCs are the fastest-growing end of the world's fastest-growing industry. By the end of the 1990s electronics could well have overtaken oil and cars to become the world's biggest industry. It is still an industry dominated by US manufacturers: the main makers of PCs (led by IBM) are American; the chips they use are American (either IBM's own, Intel's or Motorola's); and the software system they run on, for the most part, created in the United States.

That said, it is also an industry that knows no boundaries: American PCs sold in Western Europe are often assembled from parts made all over the Far East. And if manufacturers have their way,

they may soon be assembled in Eastern Europe from components made there.

In 1990, three American companies — IBM, Compaq and Apple — will again dominate the European market for PCs, just as they did the year before. Their main European challenger, Olivetti, had doubled the market share of its next closest American rivals — Commodore and Hewlett-Packard — but still lost ground to those two as well as to the three biggest American firms.

Last year, Olivetti tried to steal a march on its rivals by becoming the first big international manufacturer to produce a PC based on the new Intel 486 — a powerful new 32-bit chip that enables its machine to operate at 15 mips (millions of instructions per second). Yet that product was more American than European: it was developed in Olivetti's laboratories in Cupertino, California, not at the company's base in Ivrea, at the eastern end of Europe's high-tech southern sunbelt.

Zappy chips
Europeans are rapidly developing an appetite for PCs that are not only efficient but fast too. Dataquest forecasts that by the end of 1991 sales of PCs equipped with the powerful new 486 chips will be outselling those using the slower 286 chip and, by 1994, could even be outselling the increasingly popular lap-top computers.

Manufacturers are scrambling to come out with the latest and the best. In December IBM unveiled its up-dated version of the PS/2 PC using the 486 chip. This followed the earlier introduction of a kit with which to boost existing and slower versions of the PS/2. The pace of change is forcing manufacturers to think on their

feet. Their job is being made trickier by changes in:

● **Product definitions:** Distinctions between PCs, minicomputers, and main frames are becoming blurred. Today's top-of-the-range business PC — such as the Apollo from Hewlett-Packard — will process information at the rate of 100 mips. That is ten times faster than a big mainframe at the beginning of the 1980s.

Even among PCs definitions are changing. Up to \$5,000 most PCs are either word processors or slow home computers. For a really powerful machine you once had to pay \$20,000 or more. No longer. A Dell PC with a speed of 20 mips can now be bought for as little as \$2,500.

The increasing speed at which PCs can operate is proving a big problem for manufacturers with a range of products. The more powerful PCs become, the more

While computer sales in America stall, the thirst for information is still putting more and more PCs on European executives' desks. That would be good news for manufacturers if the competition in Europe were not also driving prices down.

By Iain Carson

they replace (higher-value) minicomputers further up the scale.

The trend is gnawing at the entrails of IBM, the world's biggest computer manufacturer. The company now derives more revenue (but less profit) from PCs than it does from higher-margin mainframes. No wonder the company that had a reputation for never firing anybody is now in the throes of reducing its workforce by at least 10,000 in an effort to save \$1 billion a year in costs.

● **Standards:** In 1987, IBM

tried to outflank the so-called 'clones' — machines that use the same operating systems — by bringing out its then radical PS/2 range of PCs. The PS/2 uses what is known as microchannel architecture (MCA), a way of moving information around the computer. The new design was a departure because PS/2s are incompatible with older IBM PCs which in their day set the industry standard.

Unfortunately for IBM, the market was underwhelmed by MCA. Since its launch, the erstwhile makers of clones — led by Compaq, Olivetti and Hewlett-Packard — have themselves come out with upgraded products which conform to the pre-MCA standard, called EISA. The companies claim to match IBM's performance while remaining faithful to the former industry standard set by IBM. Since no computer-buying

company wants to render its investment obsolete overnight, the clones' argument has been a compelling one. "We selected EISA," says Vittorio Cassoni, Olivetti's managing director, "because it will allow us to offer very high-performance computing products to our customers, while maintaining compatibility with their present equipment. ... Many share his view. In practice, however, MCA and EISA will probably continue to exist side by side."

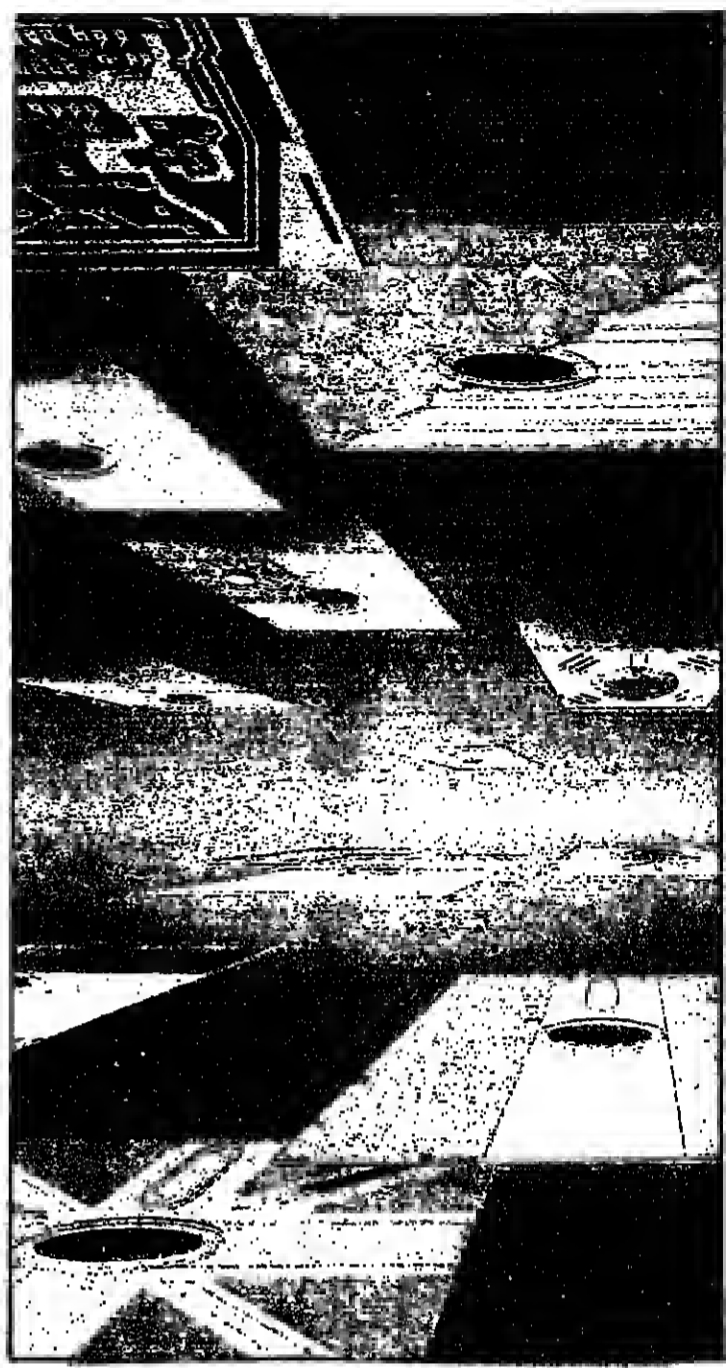
● **Product development:** As

companies' hardware becomes more and more standardised, software differentiation will be the key to commercial success. Apple was the first to provide a 'mouse' for users of its graphics package on the Macintosh PC. Once legal squabbles over proprietary rights to the software involved faded away, so rival makers of PCs are likely to introduce similar devices (known as GUIs, graphics user interfaces) for changing displays on the screen. These will all be attempts to make the PC more user-friendly, and to encourage more and more people to keep one of their desks.

Beyond doubt is the fact that the market for PCs is becoming more sophisticated and more competitive. The 1990s saw the arrival of the mainframe computer: the 1970s the minicomputer; and the 1980s the revolutionary PC. The next decade will probably witness the linking of all but the most powerful mainframes.

"There will be PCs on all desks in every business," says Eckhard Pfeiffer, international president of Compaq. "They will all be tied together in networks, and they will be very high-performance products. These PCs will be connected world-wide, with open systems and standards."

Compaq has good reason for feeling confident that its share of the market will continue to grow. Its up-market mix of products has given it unusually wide margins (18 per cent compared with the 10-12 per cent of its rivals), helped by its lean marketing set-up — it operates entirely through dealers which keeps costs down. In consequence, its sales in Europe have zoomed from practically nothing to \$1 billion in five years.



Need for effective network management grows

THE need for network management in many organisations has grown in parallel with the growth in the use of networks. With more users having more application: with the merging of disparate technologies in both mainframe and network products; with pressures from management to reduce costs and users demanding high availability with consistently good service, network management tools are not merely desirable, they are

essential. Increasingly network managers are giving thought to overcoming problems before availability and service thresholds are exceeded when often it is too late. The fusion of computer and telecommunications strategies from a variety of equipment and protocols are fuelling the demand for fast and error-free communications networks. This is, in turn, driving the development of network

management systems. The fusion of computer and telecommunications strategies from a variety of equipment and protocols are fuelling the demand for fast and error-free communications networks. This is, in turn, driving the development of network

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management systems. The fusion of computer and telecommunications strategies from a variety of equipment and protocols are fuelling the demand for fast and error-free communications networks. This is, in turn, driving the development of network

management systems, et al; and those systems which integrate several of the above features. The days are long passed when a network management system was merely designed to highlight faults. Likewise a network management system is more than a conglomeration of software to provide statistics on the use of the network. A network management system, by definition, should be an information provider regarding faults and usage trends, but,

more importantly, the system must have the built-in capability to modify the network configuration to maintain service level objectives. In particular there is a need for intelligently controlled electronic switching to complement traditional patching, A/B switching, monitoring and alarming equipment to highlight, record, and reroute around, network problems.

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COMPUTERS AND OFFICE AUTOMATION: AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Announcing ArabWord® 3.0 Network Edition and Arabic Electronic Mail - ArabMail™

GULF Star Systems is pleased to announce ArabWord Version 3 Network Edition and ArabMail — the first fully, bilingual Electronic Mail facility.

Version 3 is a major revision of version 2 and as such incorporates a number of changes and improvements over the earlier versions.

The initial release was made in February and will be the LAN-Multi-user version. The single-user version will be released in April and will contain additional enhancements such as 43 line screen support.

ArabWord Version 3 will operate correctly under Arabic MS-DOS from Alis/Microsoft although ArabWord does not use any of the Arabic facilities of the operating system.

The new release will use a hardware key for protection instead of the earlier software methods. ArabWord 3.0 Network Edition adds an entirely new dimension to word processing.

Gulf Star Systems has improved the speed and functionality of ArabWord as well as added new features — many of these designed to improve work-group computing in Local Area and Wide Area Networks.

New features include:

- Centering Rules
- GOTO Page Command
- New Command Key Layout
- AW to Ventura Conversion Programme
- LAN/WAN Electronic Mail Capability (ArabMail)
- FAX Gateway Support

ArabWord 3.0 Network Edition now provides integrated Electronic Mail (ArabMail) and

FAX Gateway capabilities. ArabWord now offers you the ability to exchange messages and documents (English and

Arabic) with other workstations from within ArabWord. ArabMail provides direct access to FAX gateways as well.

Arabic Office Automation with ArabWord

EVERYONE talks about office automation, but in the Middle East there are considerations of language which do not exist in the west where most OA software is developed.

One company in Kuwait has been developing OA solutions for several years. Gulf Star Systems brought out ArabWord, their bilingual word processor, in 1984 and has now sold well over 12,000 copies.

Although most computer users in the region are familiar with ArabWord, very few people are aware of the work that has been taking place to make ArabWord a more useful OA product in a networking environment.

Currently there are only two word processors in the west with announced capabilities for Electronic Mail (E-Mail). These are MS-Word and Wordperfect. Yet in the Middle East, ArabWord already has full, bilingual E-mail capabilities which operate using standard Novell Netware with MHS.

E-mail is the ability to send messages from workstation to workstation over a Local Area Network (LAN) or even a Wide Area Network (WAN). Typically the user requires additional software to retrieve and display these messages, but ArabWord has all these facilities built-in.

An E-mail message which is sent from one user to another will be delivered directly to the recipients E-mail file folder within the ArabWord environment. This makes retrieval and access very simple.

Sending a message is equally simple. The user enters his message or document and then presses a function key to send it. He is prompted for the destination users ID and once entered, the document is transmitted.

The sender is notified when the message is received and if there is a problem, the sender is notified as to why the message could not be sent.

ArabWord also has a FAX gateway which allows a user to send a FAX in English or Arabic from his workstation through a FAX gateway on the LAN.

There is currently no other product in the world offering this capability in Arabic.

All the development work on ArabWord is done locally, in Kuwait, to produce a product which is powerful yet simple to use for the local clerical and business staff, yet with advanced features only beginning to be offered in the west.

Simply enter your FAX text in English, Arabic or both and send it to your FAX gateway. ArabWord currently supports Arabic on the Intel Connection Coprocessor. Any gateway which is based on this card, such as ALCOM's LANFAX, will operate in Arabic as well as English.

Documents in either English or Arabic may be transferred between workstations in the same LAN or between LAN's thousands of miles apart.

ArabMail uses standard Novell MHS facilities and is therefore compatible with all X.400 gateways running under Netware.

ArabWord 3.0 ArabMail facilities will support an unlimited number of users.

Arabic E-Mail is now an available facility with ArabWord Version 3. Simple to use and operate, ArabMail offers the Arabic language user a facility which is not yet readily available in the west. Although there are several English E-Mail products on the market, they are not word processors and do not allow the user to send a word processing document except as an attachment file.

ArabMail is an integrated part of ArabWord Version 3 and not only allows the user to send his ArabWord documents without having to leave ArabWord, but it also receives mail from other users and puts them in a "Mail" file folder complete with their original ArabWord document name and print specification — in English and/or Arabic.

Benchmarks on SPEC

By Jack Schofield

THERE ARE no speed limits in the computer business, and every manufacturer wants to prove its machines are the fastest in their price category. Unfortunately computers don't have speedometers, and there is no agreement about how to measure performance. Spec, the System Performance Evaluation Co-operative, has been formed to tackle the problem.

Spec was initiated by an American magazine, Electronic Engineering Times. All the leading workstation manufacturers joined, including Apollo, DEC, Hewlett-Packard, MIPS, and Sun. Today there are 17 members, including one major customer, DuPont.

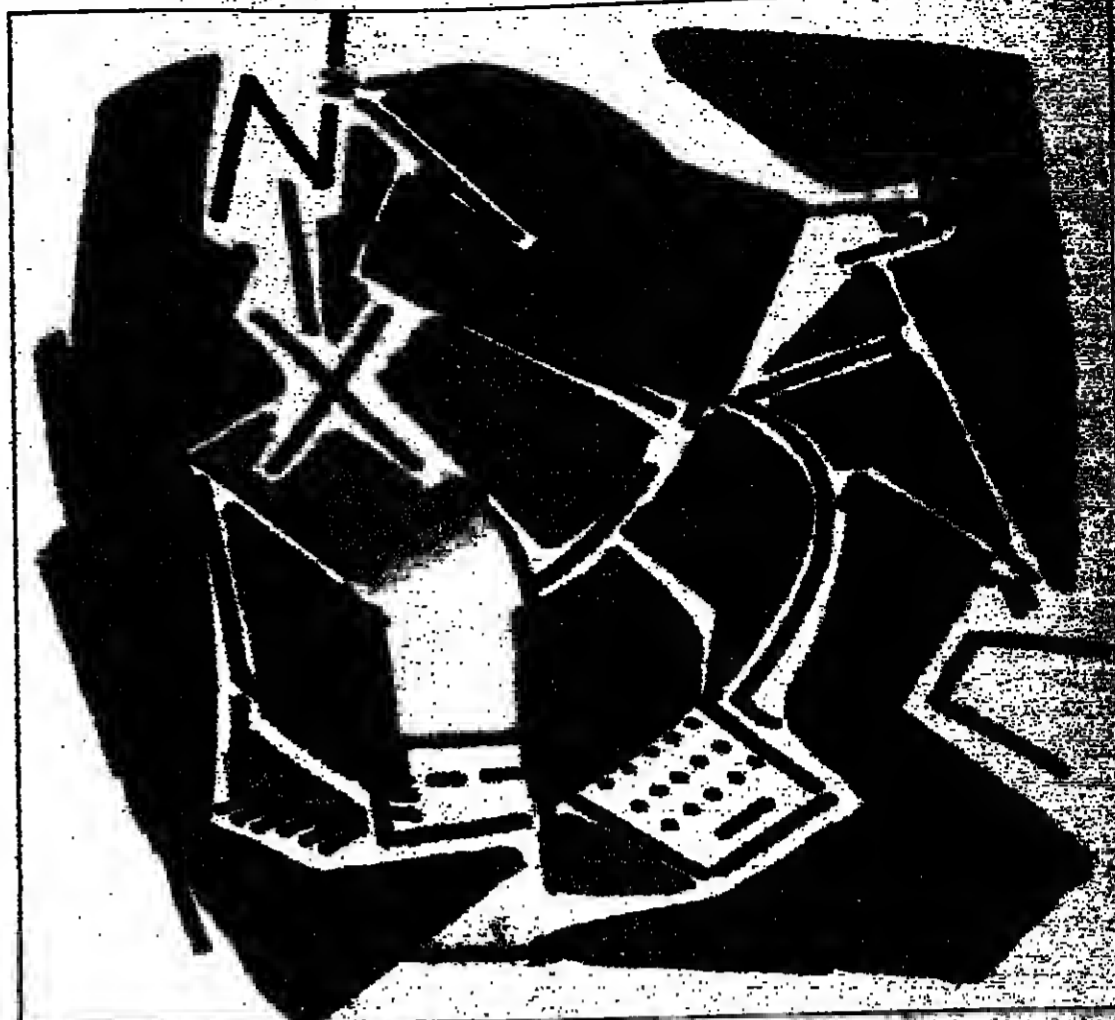
Spec is a democratic, non-profit organisation which provides a set of ten benchmarks on tape. These are run and timed on the computer under test. The results are then reported in a standard format where the "Specration" is related to the performance of a DEC VAX 11/780 mini.

The results can be reduced to a single figure, the SPECmark, by taking the geometric mean. This does not provide an absolute measure of performance, but it enables similar machines from different manufacturers to be roughly compared.

Of course, benchmarks such as Linpack, Whetstones, Dhrystone, and Livermore Loops have been used for years, but with variable results. There are different versions of some, and you don't always know which was used or if it was changed. Results vary according to the compilers used, and the tuning of the computer system.

Such benchmarks can be standardised, but most traditional ones are artificial, so there is doubt as to whether they measure anything useful.

Some benchmarks have been made obsolete by advances in technology. Code that once exercised a supercomputer now fits in the cache memory of a workstation and runs in a fraction of a second — too fast to time. Modern optimising compilers look at, for example, empty loops in benchmark



source code, realise they do nothing and threw them away. A benchmark may appear to run instantly because the computer hasn't actually run it.

Spec's benchmark suite is, by contrast, based on meaningful programmes drawn from technical computing. Each routine has been selected to be independent of the hardware and operating system in use (though the benchmarks are supplied for Unix). Guidelines are provided to ensure that the benchmarks are run, timed and reported in a uniform way. Results are published in a standard format in Spec's quarterly newsletter.

So far Spec has had 55 benchmarks proposed by member companies. Twenty have been rejected because they are too small, unrealistic, or present portability problems.

Some proposals are still being investigated. Ten have been accepted and included in Release 1.0 of the Spec Benchmark Suite published last October.

Suppliers running the benchmarks are not allowed to change them except where the code generates a compiler error. Most could produce better results if they optimised the code of their systems, but Spec has banned such "performance enhanced results" because "committee members found no way to define what would be an acceptable change to the Spec benchmark source code."

However, firms are allowed to run the routines as often as they like and publish the best figures. As performance can vary by over 200 per cent even on Spec routines, this provides some flexibility.

Spec benchmarks have weaknesses. The most obvious is that there are four C routines and six Fortran ones, but none in Ada, Cobol, Modula-2 and other languages. Also the benchmarks are processor intensive, and don't cover input/output (disc drives, networks), or graphics systems. Multi-user performance and multi-processing are still to be addressed.

Nevertheless SPEC marks are now a major discussion topic because IBM, which joined last May, has just published results for its new RS/6000 range of RISC (Reduced instruction set computer) machines. Where workstations generally have SPECmarks between 10 and 20, the RS/6000 scores 22.3 (at 20MHz), 28.9 (at 25MHz) and 34.7 (at 30MHz).

Common IBM roots enhance compatibility

The modular design of the IBM PC family is crucial to its success. For example, by adding an adaptor card plus appropriate monitor screen a computer can be converted to any of the commonly used IBM display standards that have evolved over the years.

The first machine, the IBM PC, used monochrome, character-based (non-graphic) output, and this standard, known as MDA (monochrome display adaptor) is still current for wordprocessing and

spreadsheets. For charting and graphics, IBM offered an alternative called a "high resolution" colour graphics adaptor. As well as seeing the screen as 25 lines by 80 characters, CGA was able to divide it up into "picture elements" (or "pixels" for short) — tiny dots of light used to create graphic pictures.


In four colour mode CGA could handle 320 by 200 pixels. Working with only two colours the verticle resolution could be

doubled to 320 by 400 pixels. This standard was sadly famous for its poor rendition of text and its eye-watering blink whenever the screen scrolled. Few desktop machines retained it, although a workable monochrome variant (cured of the blinking) is still used for the LCD screens of the cheaper portables.

CGA was replaced by EGA as a business standard in the mid 1980s. EGA (Enhanced Graphics Adaptor) improved the resolution to 640 by 350

pixels in up to 16 colours. The complete definition is "16 colours from a palette of 64," which means that although the standard is capable of displaying 64 distinct colours, only 16 different colours can be on the screen at the same time.

The great convenience of EGA was that it had the previous modes built in and could therefore run all the software formerly written for the MDA and CGA standards. These three standards all used different types of monitors,



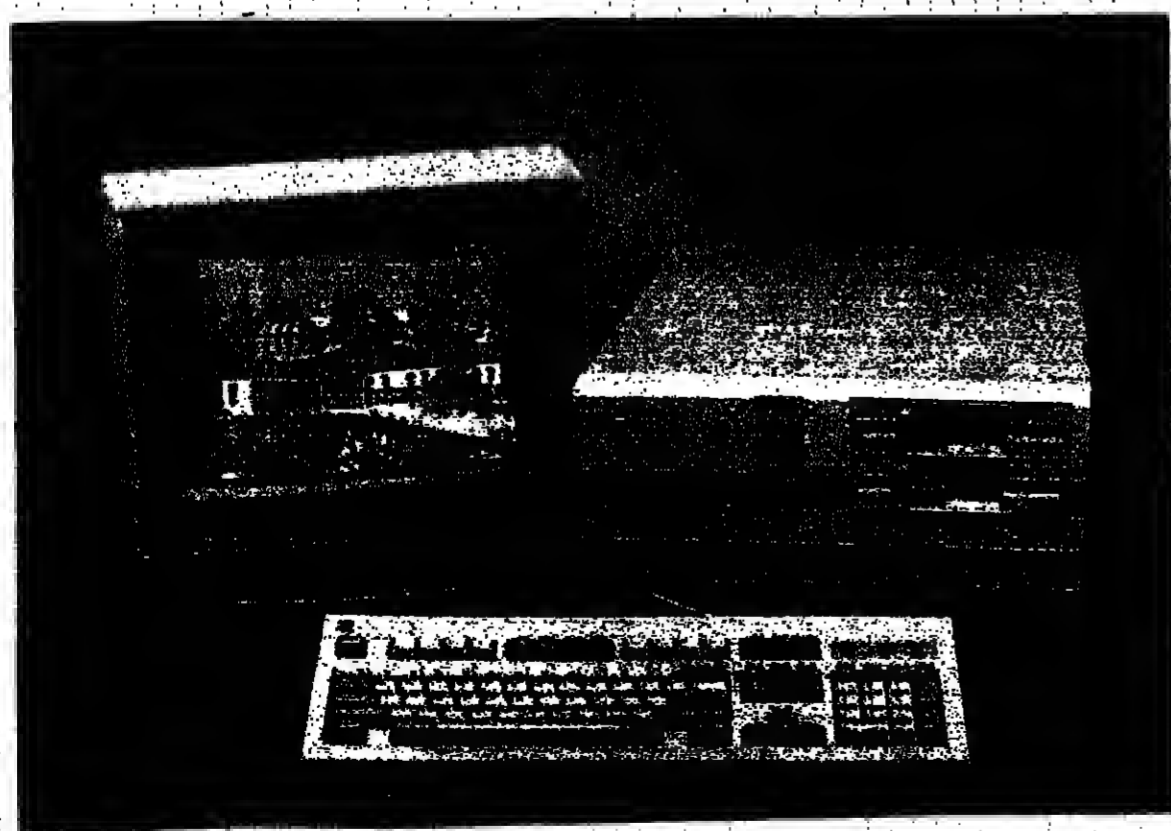
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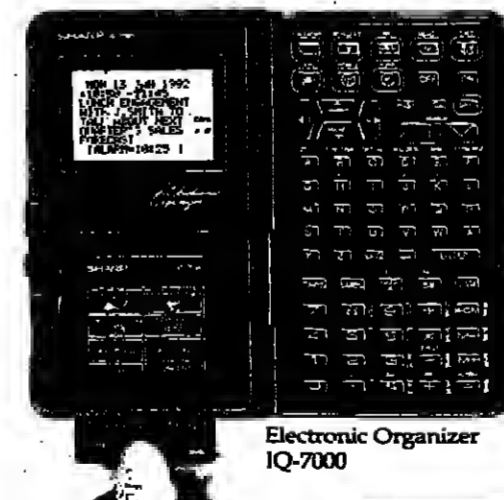
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COMPUTERS AND OFFICE AUTOMATION: AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Strategic business planning

Big plans for small companies

By Keith R. Yocum

Many people who run businesses from their homes dream of leaving behind their basement beginnings for Trump Tower-like digs.

Turning that dream into reality isn't easy, but one thing is certain: a coherent business plan is a fundamental part of starting and building any company. It focuses your resources and reassures potential investors of the enterprise's chances for success.

Putting your business prospects into a coherent plan is a tough job that takes plenty of thought, but Tim Berry's Business Plan Toolkit, from Palo Alto Software, can give you a head start. Budding entrepreneurs, who might otherwise be intimidated by the complexity and bewildering scope of a business plan and decide it isn't worth the hassle, will find that this programme makes the job manageable.

The Toolkit, which works in conjunction with your spreadsheet and word processor, contains all the elements you need for a complete business plan.

including a written report, financial information, and charts and graphs — on a non-copy-protected diskette. You can even use the included sample business plan.

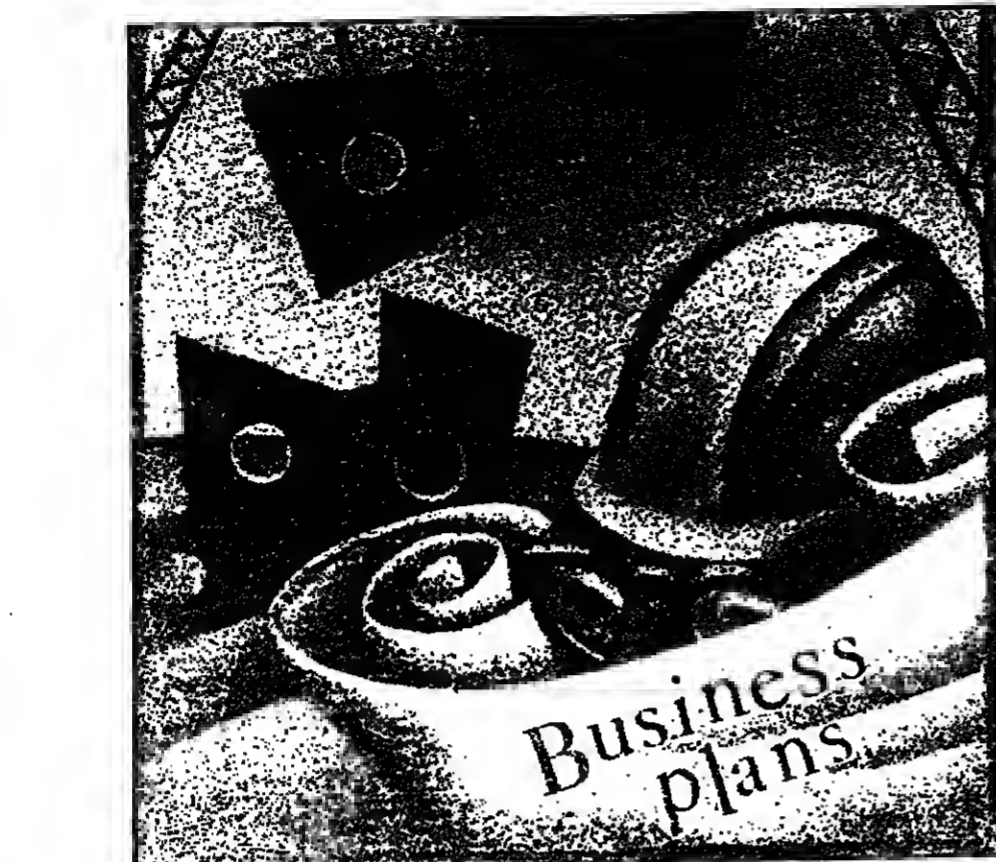
Substituting your own data and melding the elements into a single, hard-hitting document.

Massaging the package's sample plan into one that encapsulates your own business vision is simple. You can use Lotus 1-2-3 or any spreadsheet that works with 1-2-3 files to access the Toolkit's worksheets.

And chances are your word processor works with the ASCII files that contain the written portion of the plan and an outline.

By the Numbers

The financial section—the heart of a convincing business plan — can be the most daunting to prepare. The Business Plan Toolkit gets you started with templates for all the essential financial files, including projected income and



cash flow statements, a sales forecast, and a balance sheet. It also supplies the formulas behind the financial analyses.

Say, for example, that you're building an office supply business. You estimate that you'll need four outside salespeople, each producing \$2,000 a week in sales during the first six months. Using Lotus 1-2-3, you can replace the sample figures in the Toolkit spreadsheet with your own, and the package will automatically alter the projected income, cash flow, and balance sheet data to reflect the new sales forecast. If changing conditions lead you to decide to boost the weekly sales projections for each salesperson, the changes will ripple through the entire worksheet.

Tim Berry's Business Plan Toolkit takes care of the financial analyses while leaving plenty of room for customization. If the personnel worksheet doesn't have enough

rows, simply add more. If you're starting a service company, omit the sections on manufacturing facilities. Instead of spending time creating complex spreadsheets, you can concentrate on getting your data right and perfecting your business.

The End Result
Customizing the written portion is just as easy: use, change, discard, or add to the text of the sample business plan however you see fit.

If you aren't certain what to include in your business plan, the sparse but informative 108-page booklet lays out the steps in simple, unambiguous language. The writers of the documentation were obviously attentive to the needs of home businesses: in addition to instructions for using the software and an item-by-item business plan outline, it provides the kind of general business advice that most entrepreneurs need.

When you have completed your research, crunched your financials, and written your report, you must print the plan with your word processor because Toolkit doesn't have its own printing capability. If your word processing programme can't import the spreadsheets and their charts and graphs, you'll have to print them from your spreadsheet programme and splice them into the printed plan. It's not much trouble considering all the time and effort you've saved.

Once you're done, you'll have a professional-looking business plan to add legitimacy to your company and help attract big-money backers. Tim Berry's Business Plan Toolkit costs \$99.95 and requires Lotus 1-2-3 or a compatible spreadsheet and an ASCII-compatible word processor. It's available from Palo Alto Software, 260 Sheridan Ave., Suite 219, Palo Alto, Calif. 94306; 800-336-5544, 415-325-3190.

Building a Plan

● Don't be paranoid. Budding entrepreneurs are often afraid of discussing their new ideas for fear someone will steal them. The chances of that happening are minuscule; the chances of your never getting your project off the ground are astronomical. Worry more about whether your idea has merit, and you can find out only by discussing it with lots of people.

● Be flexible. If your idea is routinely condemned by everyone you talk to, there may be reason to question its viability.

● Be specific. Assign particular goals and responsibilities. If you have a marketing director, for instance, make sure your plan details the director's goals. A sales manager's quotas and number of sales calls should be enumerated.

● Be brief. A good, readable business plan should not exceed 50 pages. The executive summary is critical. It has to be well thought out and detailed. Include market potential for the product or service, its benefits or features, and expected financial results.

● Identify your revenue sources. Because venture capitalists often want to get in and out of a deal in less than ten years, you'll want to emphasize your company's fast growth. Try to present it as salable or able to go public. If, on the other hand, you intend to pitch your accountant, dentist, and father-in-law, you might want to emphasize long-term growth instead.

● Push the numbers. Work on your finances so that you understand them. Get several quotes from competing vendors to estimate how much your rent will be or how much your raw materials will cost. You'll learn more about your business and prove you have your bases covered.

● Venture capitalists invest in people, not ideas. A great business plan without an experienced, committed sponsor is doomed. When presenting your plan, you have to show some fire in your belly.

Arabic and Farsi writer

IN 1989, the only company that had a Farsi or Urdu typeface available was Monotype, and they only had a word level approach. They took a picture of the word and stored it in the memory. This of course presented the problem of what to do with new words and words incorporated from other languages. The only solution it seemed was to develop a typesetter-like face. "Over the last three years we have done extensive research on the typefaces, because Monotype's type face was very expensive even though it is a perfectly valid solution. And so we decided to go into this area," said Khan.

From the experience in developing these typefaces, the company was able to gain valuable experience and knowledge about the limitations of software and word processing packages available in this area. Silversoft put that information to work and has come up with an Arabic word processor for the Arabic market. We are planning to issue it in the first week of April. It has 52 typefaces, not licensed to us, but they are similar to Letraset, which has also 52 typefaces," Khan said.

"We have designed an interface that is similar to Microsoft Word. It does not look like Microsoft on the display, but the interface works like Microsoft Word. We studied available word processors and had everything integrated — no external downloading. The current version is limited in the number of point sizes because this version does not have Postscript. Hopefully the next version, which we plan to release this year, will have it. Because with Postscript we had minor problems, and those problems we wanted to resolve before we brought it out. The screen is text driven like Microsoft Word of Wordperfect 5," explained Khan.

The company has plans to release a graphics user interface for computers of at least 12 MHz to give a full graphics capability. The word processor being released now is the text version, and the Postscript version will be available a full blown WYSIWYG word processor. Some of the

Silverstone executives from Pakistan, one of the first companies to develop software in Urdu, were visiting SaudiCom 90 to get a feel for the market for their new product, the Sadaf Nastaliq word processor. Farooq Khan, the language developer and executive of Silversoft, talked about a new launch.

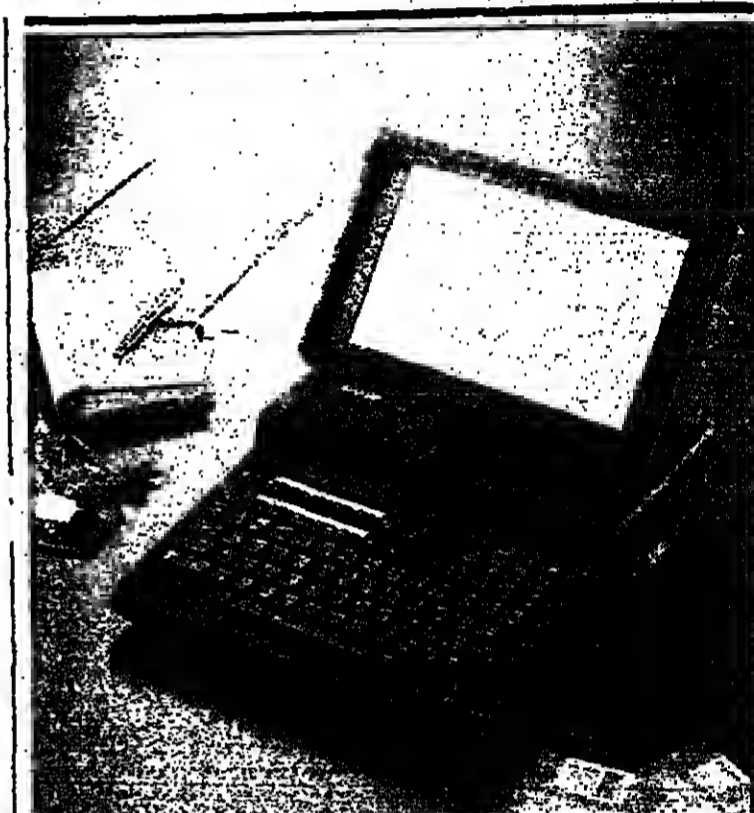
characteristics of the processor are the ability to import graphics, availability of similar printer drivers, multiple column and multiple width column, right left justification, indenting, selecting margins and repositioning of text.

"We are looking for a distributor here," Khan said, explaining that the word processor is somewhat specialised. "But I am still checking out the market. You see Farsi and Urdu are not used as normal text, they are only used as headlines (in the southern Arabian markets). What we have developed is the ability to handle characters both

horizontally and vertically. This capability is only supported artificially only for some characters."

The product will be suitable for the lower Gulf region only when the Postscript version is available with a full range of fonts. It seems that the current text mode version is only suitable for Farsi and headlines and is ideally suitable to the northern Arabian countries, Pakistan and Indian markets.

The WP was not shown at the show, because it was not yet released in the Middle East, although it got its first public airing in Karachi in the middle of January. ANC



Sharp/PC- 4600 series

Desktop power, laptop size.....

THE Sharp PC-4600 Series packs the power and sophistication of desktop computers into a laptop size. The display screen is a large, illuminated SuperTwist LCD with EL backlighting, so it's easy on the eyes and effortlessly readable. This versatile screen features both high contrast, and wide viewing angles. The PC-4600 Series also offers large storage capacities. The PC-4641 incorporates a 40MB hard disk and a 3.5" 720 KB FDD. The PC-4602 comes with two 3.5" 720KB floppy disk drives. The full size keyboard has separate cursor and numeric keys and tactile typing keys. The PC-4600 Series offers the versatility of MS-DOS 3.3 and the convenience of battery operation, in addition to a host of options.

Lightweight, Laptop Design
The PC-4602 weighs just over 4.8 kg, and the PC-4641 is just over 5.4 kg. Large capacity 40MB HDD and 720KB FDD

The PC-4641 incorporates a fast 45ms 40MB hard disc drive. In addition, 3.5" floppy disc drives (one of the PC-4641 and two on the PC-4602) provide 720KB of data storage. An optional external 5.25" drive is also available.

High-Speed CPU with Expandable Memory
Sharp's PC-4600 Series includes an 80188 compatible CPU which runs at 10MHz. Its standard 640KB of RAM is expandable to 1.6MB by adding a 1MB EMS memory card. A ROM disk card supports quick starts for standard or custom software, making it an excellent choice for customised applications.

Large Illuminated SuperTwist Liquid Crystal Display
The full size display is a large "easy-on-the-eyes" superTwist LCD. It supports an 8x16 dot character box and an 80-character by 25-line text format. Four shades of gray (dither) can be displayed in the 640 x 400 pixel area for colour representation. An optional CRT adapter supports CGA compatible colour monitors for colour graphics, or a monochrome monitor.

Battery Operation
A lead battery provides hours of uninterrupted mobile operation, even while using the bright backlight display.

Feature-Packed Full Size Keyboard
The 90-key, step-sculptured keyboard includes a separate numeric keypad, 10 programmable function keys, separate cursor keys and a large return key. Error-free operation is enhanced by tactile typing keys. LED indicators highlight caps lock, number lock and scroll lock modes. A single key activates a "system set-up" menu.

Convenient System Expandability
Interfaces include a serial interface (RS-232C), parallel printer interface (Centronics) and an external 5.25" FDD. An optional ROM disk card, 1MB EMS memory card or CRT adapter can be added. An additional RS-232C is available.

Expressive Design
The step-sculptured keyboard features both tactile and audible feedback, while the display screen offers contrast and brightness settings. There's also an easy-to-grasp carrying handle for instant portability.

User Interface
An "Auto Power On" function allows automatic start up at user-specified time.

PC-4641
● IBM® PC/XT® compatibility
● Built-in 40MB (45ms) hard disk drive and 3.5" 720 KB floppy disk drive.
● Battery operation.

● Large, illuminated superTwist LCD with EL backlighting.
● 80 x 25 character text and 640 x 400 pixels for CGA emulation.
● 90-key step-sculptured key-board with tactile keys and a separate numeric keypad.

● 80188 compatible CPU running at a fast 10MHz; socket for optional 8087 numeric coprocessor.
● Standard 640KB memory expandable to 1.6MB with optional 1MB EMS memory card.

● Built-in serial/parallel interfaces and external FDD interface.
● Optional colour/monochrome CRT adapter.
● MS-DOS 3.3/GW-BASIC 3.2.

PC-4602
● IBM® PC/XT® compatibility
● Lightweight, compact portable design.
● Built-in dual 3.5" 720KB floppy disk drives.

● Battery operation
● Large, illuminated superTwist LCD with EL backlighting.
● 80 x 25 character text and 640 x 400 pixels for CGA emulation.

● 90-key step-sculptured keyboard with tactile keys and a separate numeric keypad.
● 80188 compatible CPU running at fast 10MHz; socket for optional 8087 numeric coprocessor.

● Standard 640KB memory expandable to 1.6MB with optional 1MB EMS memory card.
● Built-in serial/parallel interfaces and external FDD interface.
● Optional colour/monochrome CRT adapter.

● MS-DOS 3.3/GW-BASIC 3.2.

Fibre optics may help computers run on light

A NEW family of materials that could prove a boon to fibre optical communications and help to develop computers that run on light has been discovered by researchers at the University of Sussex.

Called non-linear materials, they respond to light by rearranging the electric charges in their molecular structure so as to increase their ability to bend light, change its colour, or even to act as mirrors.

Many believe that such optical materials will eventually take over tasks now performed with chip technology. For instance, the ability to store information as a three-dimensional hologram rather than as millions of bits of information on a silicon chip may make it easier to discern patterns, so a computer can recognise a face or a fingerprint.

However, for practical use in telecommunications and

computers, scientists have been striving to find non-linear materials that also boast desirable mechanical properties like strength and rigidity.

In the latest issue of Nature, the Sussex team, led by Dr Ken Seddon and Prof. Tony McCaffery, reveals how it has managed this feat by growing crystals of a non-linear material in a transparent polymer akin to Perspex. Their method has been patented by the BP Venture

Research Unit, which funded the work. The method was first thought of by Dr Paul Calvert, one of the team who has now joined the brain drain to the United States, and perfected by Nazar Aziz.

Astonishingly, by cooking the material in a special way, they were able to line up the crystals of the non-linear material in neat ranks. It is only through ranking the crystals in this way that their properties can be

best displayed.

The resulting material is a kind of composite containing an elegant arrangement of molecules that is normally found in nature in the guise of bone, teeth and shells.

Scientists hope that the new generation of non-linear materials will help them exploit light, which can in theory carry and process information more efficiently than electricity.

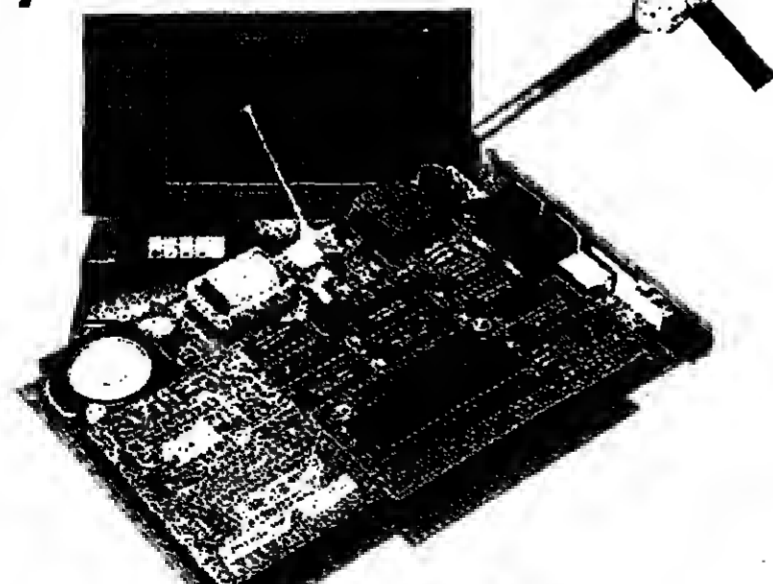
The materials will provide the

means to split, bend and manipulate light to form the basis of an optical computer or operate telephone networks based on optical fibres.

The key to these uses is the materials' non-linear properties — for instance, the ability of some materials to bend light changes with the passage of light or under the influence of electric fields, so they can be converted into optical switches or even optical amplifiers.

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- ★ Carry bag

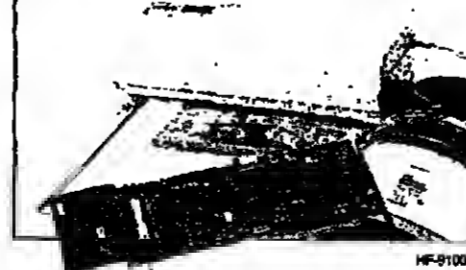
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المحيط - الفيديو - الإلكترونيات

الطريق الساجل - حارة السيد سلطان خليفة الديبر - ٢٩٢٤٥٤٦

البصرة الزرقاء للإلكترونيات

كمبيوتر - فيديو - إلكترونيات

المحيط - الفيديو - الإلكترونيات

الطريق الساجل - حارة السيد سلطان خليفة الديبر - ٢٩٢٤٥٤٦

Geographic information system

GEORGAPHIC Information System (GIS) is the latest computer application that appear to have caught the fancy of the world. As a technology that has evolved from the CAO and AM/FM (Automated Mapping, facility management), system of the recent past. A GIS is a topologically structured, object-oriented relational database system which organises geographically related data. The key to a GIS is its database. The GIS uses latest technologies for continuous mapping and database management which enables the user to build a model of reality by a method that is easy to use.

The purpose of GIS is not merely to store digital data in some database system. A system can be classified as a GIS only if it has been specially designed for spatial analysis. The organisation of the data is critical. Only a well structured and flexible database can answer problems of analysis that may even be undefined at the outset of the analysis.

System/9 is an advanced Geographic Information System designed from Prime wild GIS Switzerland for all users of organized geographic data such as municipalities, planning authorities, industrial corporations and mapping organizations.

The distinguishing feature of System/9 as opposed to a CAD or AM/FM system is that all data is maintained in a single integrated database, facilitating access to both spatial and

tabular data.

The System/9 database stores and displays geographic data "features" which represent three-dimensional, real-world objects such as roads, streams, land parcels and buildings. The database is a relational database. It provides flexible data access for ad-hoc queries and it establishes logical relationship between data elements enabling the automatic update of related attribute and geographic data. Features with common boundaries are only stored once, resulting in more accurate and easily maintained data. As features are changed, their attributes are automatically recalculated.

With System/9, all data — whether spatial or tabular — resides in a single database that can be shared by multiple users and organizations.

The relational data structure of System/9 establishes logical association between data without requiring pre-established data paths. As a result, information can be quickly and easily accessed as needed on an ad-hoc basis.

At the highest level, System/9 manages the "project database" — the master store for all geographic and tabular data. The project database contains all complete necessary to describe all the map features of a working area (such as Kuwait), as well as the attribute data. Data can be accessed through "partitions" which are duplicate subsets of the project

database defined by geographic co-ordinates. The partition also specifies what data is shown (roads, buildings, electrical lines) and how the data is represented in the partition such as what attributes to be shown, colours, symbol definition, scale, patterns etc. Using a series of editors, you can define colours, symbols, shade patterns, font styles. Through a check out process, which automatically extracts all necessary information, you can view, edit, plot or report data in a partition. Multiple partitions can overlap in their geography and data content, providing complete flexibility in maintenance and reporting operations. Since users at multiple workstations can check out partitions simultaneously the system provides maximum productivity.

System/9 runs on SUN-3 and SUN SPARC series and CADDstation workstations from PRIME. These workstations can operate as standalone systems or linked together via an Ethernet Local Area Network.

System/9 standard software
A set of standard software is provided for every workstation so that all basic functions of System/9 can be performed at any station. This standard software provides:
* Project and partition definition and management including the database management system and the management of queries, both

graphic and non-graphic.

The so-called human interface which provides the operating menus and submenus, manages the multiple windows on the graphic screens and provides the graphics display according to the previously defined specifications.
* Data capture and data editing. This module provides all the functions needed to digitize a map sheet on an S9-D workstation and to add, delete and change data and attributes after initial data capture.

System/9 optional software
A range of optional software includes the following most important modules:
* Plot task for high-quality plotted maps.
* Photogrammetric modules for use with S9-AP, including a module to establish and manage a special photogrammetric database for all data peculiar to photogrammetry.

* A module for field-survey computations and integration of computed control points and detail points into a partition.
* Polygon overlay for the comparison of up to five sets or levels of polygons. The results can be displayed and stored and attributes of one level can be transferred to another.
* Network tracing to trace connections in any network representing, for instance, electricity mains, water reticulation or a road network.
* Digital terrain module. The major module here forms a system of triangles from the measured XYZ points,

including break lines and polygons represent, in inner windows (eg. lake surfaces). Specified contours can then be interpolated in this network and plotted at a specified scale.

The system also provides the Analytical Tool Box (ATB) as an optional software. The ATB is a set of tools from which end user application may be developed. The applications can be designed to perform specific user oriented applications (user analysis, online communications with external database) or they can be used to build a customized environment for user (Arabic user interface, customized menu interface).

System/9 from PRIME WILD GIS is marketed and supported in Kuwait by authorized PRIME distributors Messrs Diyar United Trading and Contracting Company, Computer and Systems Division.



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Intergraph's selection of integrated tools allows organizations to capture, maintain, manage, and distribute paper drawings with the same level of efficiency as computer-generated CAD drawings. Intergraph's tools tailor solutions at every level from basic raster scans to sophisticated symbol/character recognition.

The products
The heart of Intergraph's scanning solution is a unique hybrid raster/vector data structure combined with the power of CLIPPER workstations and servers, providing the vehicle for raster and vector information to co-exist in one file and for raster data to be manipulated with the same ease as vector data.

Intergraph designs, manufactures, markets and supports complete Interactive Graphics Systems. The systems are integrated configurations of hardware and software for a broad range of applications including: Mapping, GIS, Architecture/Engineering/Construction (AEC), Plant Design, Energy Exploration, Mechanical and Manufacturing, Electronic's Design, Desktop Publishing and Scanning.

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Scanfax computer Latest in technology

THE yearly Computer and Office Automation Info 90 was held in the period February 18 - 22. Many computer companies participated in this show.

The latest in the computers and office automation which attracted most of the visitors was a small unit which weighs less than 7 kg and has a fax machine, a scanner, and high 20 Mhz speed at 286 computer with complete specification such as 40 MB harddisk, 1.44 MB 3.5" and 1.2 MB 5.25" disk drives, 1 MB RAM-expandable to 5 MB. And on top of that support an external colour-Ega monitor and 101-keyboard.

It comes with a hand held scanner which comes with bundle of softwares 50 pictures can be scanned, edited, merged with a word processor file and then can be faxed anywhere.

This portable fax machine will help business and management people control their work and be on contact all the time.

Imagine that you are in a meeting and away from your office, and you need an important document to present or to refer to. This problem will be easy to

handle. All you have to do, just plug this tax, computer, and scanner machine and call your secretary to fax that document you need. That is all you do.

Also, assume that you have an important and urgent tender to bid for, and you are expecting a fax coming from overseas. For sure, in this case you cannot afford to lose three or four days due to the weekends. When you finish your work just unplug this computer/fax machine and take it home, and receive your messages there.

During the exhibition, it was fun watching the demonstration when they took one of my children's picture, which happened to be in my pocket. They scanned it. Inserted my son's name on the picture and then faxed it. The resolution of that picture was superb even though it was enlarged four times. No wonder, that fax can send in four different resolutions and the scanner has up to 400 dot per inch resolution.

In one word. That machine was worth seeing and off course worth buying.

Available at Blue Marble Electronics.

Info irony

By Keith Devlin

IN JANUARY, a small computer error at an exchange in New Jersey led to a major failure of the vast US-wide AT & T telephone network. For nine hours, over half the long-distance telephone calls attempted in the US failed to get through.

Though the fault occurred on a public holiday, when most businesses were closed the failure nevertheless caused nation-wide chaos in airline bookings, hotel reservations, car rentals, and was a major obstacle to journalists, telephone shoppers, and a host of people who depend upon the telephone for their livelihood or leisure activities.

The next day it led to the publication of hitherto unknown access numbers which allow AT & T subscribers to route their long-distance calls via one of the two much smaller competitors, MCI and Sprint, at no extra charge. This may result in a permanent loss of revenue for AT & T, since when someone receives the "all lines busy" message, they will not "try again later" as requested, but try another company instead.

AT & T's president described the breakdown as the most serious network problem in the company's history. A large portion of the daily life of a powerful and wealthy nation with more than 200 million people was disrupted by a small error in a computer programme proof indeed that ours is an Age of Information.

But what exactly is information? With so much of the stuff around, you might think the answer is obvious, but just what is it that we get from reference books and newspapers, TV screens, the radio and telephone network?

A few moments reflection should convince you that you don't have the foggiest idea. Nor does anyone else, including those Silicon Valley whiz-kids who have made fortunes out of the information-technology business.

True, we can pass on and obtain information in various ways: by voice, sound, pictures, words, touch, smell, and so on. But these are just the things that carry the information. The medium is not the message.

In fact, information is like the Cheshire cat's grin: it's what is left when you take away the electrons, the printed letters on the page, or the physical sound waves in the air. You cannot see the information, nor feel, touch, hear, or smell it. But it is there. You can acquire it and act upon it. You might even fight to protect it.

Why is it that we cannot answer such a basic question? Perhaps it is because there is not yet a science of information to explain the technology of information.

Compaq computer reports 1989 earnings up 31 per cent on sales increase of 39 per cent

COMPAQ Computer Corporation has announced sales of \$2.9 billion and net income of \$333 million, or \$7.76 per share on a fully diluted basis, for the year ended December 31, 1989.

Sales for 1989 increased by 39 per cent over 1988, when the Company reported revenues of \$2.1 billion. Net income increased by 31 per cent compared with net income of \$255 million, or \$6.27 per share on a fully diluted basis, in 1988.

For the fourth quarter of 1989, sales were \$788 million, an 18 per cent increase over the \$668 million reported in the same period of 1988. Net income for the fourth quarter of 1989 was \$79 million, or \$1.84 per share, which compares to net income of \$92 million, or \$2.18 per share in 1988, a decrease in net income of 14 per cent.

"In 1989, the US PC market experienced a slowing growth rate. However, significant new products combined with strong growth in the European and international sales of our products made 1989 a good year for Compaq," said Rod Canon, President and Chief Executive Officer, Compaq Computer Corporation. "Compaq's European and international sales grew 62 per cent in 1989 over 1988 and exceeded \$1 billion in annual revenue for the first time. This significant increase sales moved Compaq to the number two market share position in the European business PC market according to Paris-based market researcher IEE Dataquest. Our North American revenues increased by 24 per cent in 1989 over 1988, reinforcing Compaq's number two market share position in business PCs. The small decline in net income in the fourth quarter reflects the slowing growth rate of the PC market, coupled with an increased level of expenditures related to Compaq's entry into the PC Systems market with the Systempro product line," said Canon. "We expect this slower market growth to continue in 1990."

The successful introduction of new products significantly

contributed to the company's success in 1989. In April Compaq introduced the COMPAQ DESKPRO 286e, a small footprint, 286 microprocessor-based desktop computer with integrated Video Graphics Array (VGA), five expansion slots, room for four storage devices and standard interfaces. This product was one of Compaq's highest volume products during 1989.

The COMPAQ DESKPRO 386/33, introduced in May, utilizes the 3-MHz Intel 386 processor and features the high-performance COMPAQ Flex architecture, integrated VGA graphics and a streamlined desktop design that still allows for eight expansion slots and five storage devices. According to market researcher InfoCorp, based in San Jose, California, the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386/33 is the largest selling 33-MHz 386-based PC in the world.

In October, Compaq introduced the COMPAQ LTE and COMPAQ LTE/286 notebook-sized laptops. Customer orders exceeded supply throughout the fourth quarter of 1989 and into the first quarter of 1990. Compaq does not currently anticipate that demand will be completely met for these products until the second quarter of 1990. These 6-pound laptops measure just 8 1/2 by 11 inches and offer more than 3 1/2 hours of battery life. The COMPAQ LTE/286 incorporates a 12-MHz 80C286 microprocessor; the COMPAQ LTE a 9.54-MHz 80C86 microprocessor. They were the first laptops of this size to offer a 40-or 20-megabyte fixed disk drive and a standard 3 1/2-inch, 1.44 MB diskette drive. The COMPAQ LTE family was quickly recognised for its outstanding design and quality by being named to several prestigious "Product of the Year" lists.

On November 6, Compaq announced the COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO and COMPAQ DESKPRO 486/25, both incorporating the Extended Industry Standard Architecture (EISA or EISA). EISA is a compatible extension of the

8/16-bit industry standard bus design which can also accommodate high-performance 32-bit expansion boards.

The COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO, which began shipping in late December, features a tower design and is the world's first PC system to support "multiprocessing" tasks and applications. Its primary market is as a network server. With 8 to 40 MIPs of computing power, depending on product configuration and number of processors, the COMPAQ SYSTEMPRO delivers performance that is comparable to minicomputer class systems. It is also the first PC system to offer drive array technology — previously found only on mainframes — which delivers significantly higher disk subsystem performance than standard PC products.

The COMPAQ DESKPRO 486/25 is the world's most powerful desktop personal computer, powered by the new Intel 25-MHz, 15 MIPs, 486 microprocessor. It has the same streamlined design as the COMPAQ DESKPRO 386/33 and features the COMPAQ Flex architecture, a new, second-level cache controller and an interleaved memory architecture. The COMPAQ DESKPRO 486/25 is expected to begin shipping in the first quarter of 1990.

Compaq LAN MANAGER 386/486, which was also announced on November 6, is the highest performance OS/2-based LAN operating system and takes advantage of the performance benefits of 386 and 486 technology. The COMPAQ LAN MANAGER 386/486 is expected to ship in the first half of the year.

Compaq Computer Corporation is a world leader in the manufacture of PC systems, and desktop, portable and laptop personal computers. COMPAQ products are sold in 61 countries through a network of more than 3,000 authorised COMPAQ Computer Dealers. For further details contact Kuwait Computer Company.

A world of music for your personal computer

SOUND — NOT the annoying beep you hear when you hit a wrong key but the sound of music — is adding creativity and enjoyment to the PC world.

Sound effects have been an element of recreational software for about 10 years, and the use of sound in educational software is increasing. But with the advent of business-graphics software that lets the user combine music and colourful, animated images to create flashy multimedia presentations, computer sound capability has become increasingly important.

IBM has on the drawing board a multimedia PC that features extraordinary graphics and built-in music circuitry as standard equipment. (The Apple Macintosh and Commodore Amiga already come equipped for high-resolution graphics and stereo sound.) But you don't have to wait for new products with built-in sound capability. Equipping your own PC to produce stereophonic sound is an easy, inexpensive upgrade.

A number of basic sound systems let you listen to music software and, to a limited degree, create your own music with composition software and your computer's keyboard. Such systems are available for \$200 or less. Other systems — more capable and more expensive — let you compose, arrange, and edit music played on an electronic instrument attached to your PC system, and control one or more instruments from your PC's keyboard. These systems are based on the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI), a set of rules governing communication between electronic musical instruments. Since its development about 10 years ago, the MIDI has evolved into the standard for music systems. A MIDI system, including a MIDI-compatible instrument, can cost \$1,000 or more.

To assist you in selecting and setting up a sound system that has the capabilities you need, I installed two products. My choice for a simple, non-MIDI system was the \$179.95 Ad Lib Personal Computer Music System from Ad Lib Inc. (Stanford, CA 94304, Suite 800, Boston, MA 02114, 800-463-2686). For a typical MIDI system, I selected the \$995 PC Desktop Music

Studio from Roland Corp. (7200 Dominion Circle, Los Angeles, CA 90040, 213-685-5141) and added the \$499 MIDI-compatible PMP-500 Professional Electronic Keyboard from Casio Computer Co. (570 Mt Pleasant Ave., Dover, NJ 07801, 201-361-5400). Before I explain setup procedures, let me discuss the basic components and capabilities of both types of systems.

MIDI Or Non-MIDI?

A simple, non-MIDI sound system such as the Ad Lib is composed of three components: circuitry (usually an expansion card) to create the sound, a sound source (such as headphones or amplified speakers) to hear the sound, and software (sometimes optional and available at extra cost) to control the sound-producing circuitry. This type of system has a distinct disadvantage for a musician who is interested in composing and playing complex arrangements: The music you can compose with it is limited to the sounds that the system's built-in circuitry can emulate. But if you simply enjoy playing sophisticated PC games and listening to music, a basic non-MIDI system should satisfy you.

The bare-bones components of a MIDI system consist of a MIDI-interface expansion card and an external MIDI-interface device for converting PC signals to MIDI signals and vice versa: a sound module for changing MIDI signals into sounds, and music-composition software for managing playing and composing functions. In operation, a MIDI system resembles a computer network that permits PCs to communicate with each other using a central controller, or server. The MIDI-compatible devices you attach to the system can work as homogeneous units, letting a musician control one or more instruments from one keyboard or control panel and achieve the effect of a full orchestra.

A MIDI system offers greater power and diversity than a simple non-MIDI system. Rather than limiting you to the sounds built into its circuitry, it records the notes played on the sound-producing devices you connect to it. You can store your compositions on your PC's hard and

floppy disks, edit and arrange the works, play them back through a sound module connected to an amplifier or recorder (or through the instrument), or retrieve them later to insert into other musical works.

Although many electronic instruments allow for some rhythm storage, only the computer permits total control and flexibility. This power, combined with the relatively low cost of PCs and stereo synthesiser equipment, permits the home computerist to enjoy high-quality computer sound equal to that produced in a music studio by professional musicians. If you're a musician with an urge to compose and arrange music for a variety of instruments, you probably won't be satisfied with anything less than a MIDI.

Installing

The Ad Lib System

The first rule when doing any work inside your PC is to turn off the machine before removing its cover. To set up a non-MIDI sound system such as the Ad Lib Personal Computer Music System, simply install its synthesizer card in an available expansion slot in your computer and replace the cover. You won't find any jumpers or switches on the Ad Lib card. (When installing another brand, be sure to check your documentation for instructions.)

At the rear of the Ad Lib card, accessible from the back of your computer when the card is installed, you'll find a volume-control knob and a quarter-inch stereo headphone jack. Ad Lib includes a quarter-inch to an eighth-inch plug adapter, so you can use any headphones with the card. Plug a set of them into the jack on the card, set the volume-control knob, boot your machine, run the Jukebox software according to the maker's instructions, sit back, and enjoy the sound.

You can connect a pair of amplified speakers to the headphone jack on the card. This is a standard stereo headphone jack that branches, via cables, to the speakers, each of which has a built-in amplifier. I used Realistic Minimum-0.6 speakers (Radio Shack product #40-1259, \$49.95).

You can also make the card

"play" through a standard stereo system via this special cabling scheme: First, plug a Y-adaptor cable into the stereo headphone jack on the card. Ideally, the cable should have a quarter-inch male stereo plug at one end and split to two cables, each of which has a male phone plug at each end. The cable splits the right and left channels of the audio signal into two separate signals and sends each along its own line. Insert the phone plugs into the right and left auxiliary inputs on your stereo.

I encountered no difficulties installing and using the Ad Lib system. Major game and music software programmes support it. A MIDI card supplement is available from Voyetra Technologies (333 Fifth Ave., Pelham, NY 10803, 914-738-4500), so you can upgrade to the industry standard. The system is a good way to add simple, sound-producing capability to a PC.

Installing

The Roland System

Installation of a MIDI system can be costly and complex, depending on the type and number of sound-producing devices you connect. The basic configuration is the attachment of the system to your home stereo system. First, install the MIDI-interface card in an expansion slot of your PC. (My instructions apply to the Roland MIDI system. For brand-specific instructions, consult the documentation of the MIDI system you purchase.)

The Roland system consists of a one-third-length PC-interface expansion card and the MPU-1C MIDI processing unit; the MT-32 MIDI sound module; and Ease, a music-composition programme.

The Roland interface card has no switches or required settings; it uses your computer's I/O port addresses 370 hex and 331 hex and hardware interrupt 2 (9 on an AT system). These can't be changed; if you have other expansion cards that use the same port addresses or interrupt, check their documentation to determine whether their assignments can be changed. If not, remove the conflicting equipment before using the MIDI card.

At the rear of the card, access-



A selection of hardware and software you might use with your PC. Experience with hardware installation is recommended.

hile from the back of your PC when the expansion card is installed, look for a standard female DB-25 connector. A cable built into the MPU-1C interface attaches to this connector via a male DB-25 connector on the cable. Tighten the screws to keep the cable snugly in place.

You'll find several connectors — the MIDI-in, MIDI-out, sync, tape-in, tape-out, and metronome jacks — on the MPU-1C interface. Included with the system is a cable that has a male 5-pin DIN connector at each end

(5-pin DIN cables are standard for most MIDI connections). Plug one end of this cable into the MIDI-out jack of the MPU-1C, and the other end into the MIDI-in jack of the MT-32 sound module. The sound module has quarter-inch audio output jacks.

You'll need two audio cables, each with a quarter-inch mono plug on one end and a standard male phone plug on the other. Insert the quarter-inch plugs into the audio-output jacks on the MT-32, and the phone plugs into the auxiliary-input jacks on your

stereo. Next, plug the supplied AC power adapter into the power jack on the MT-32 unit and insert the AC adapter's plug into a wall outlet.

Composers, Take Note

A MIDI system lets you play and listen to "canned" music. You can also use it (in conjunction with a MIDI-compatible electronic instrument) to compose.

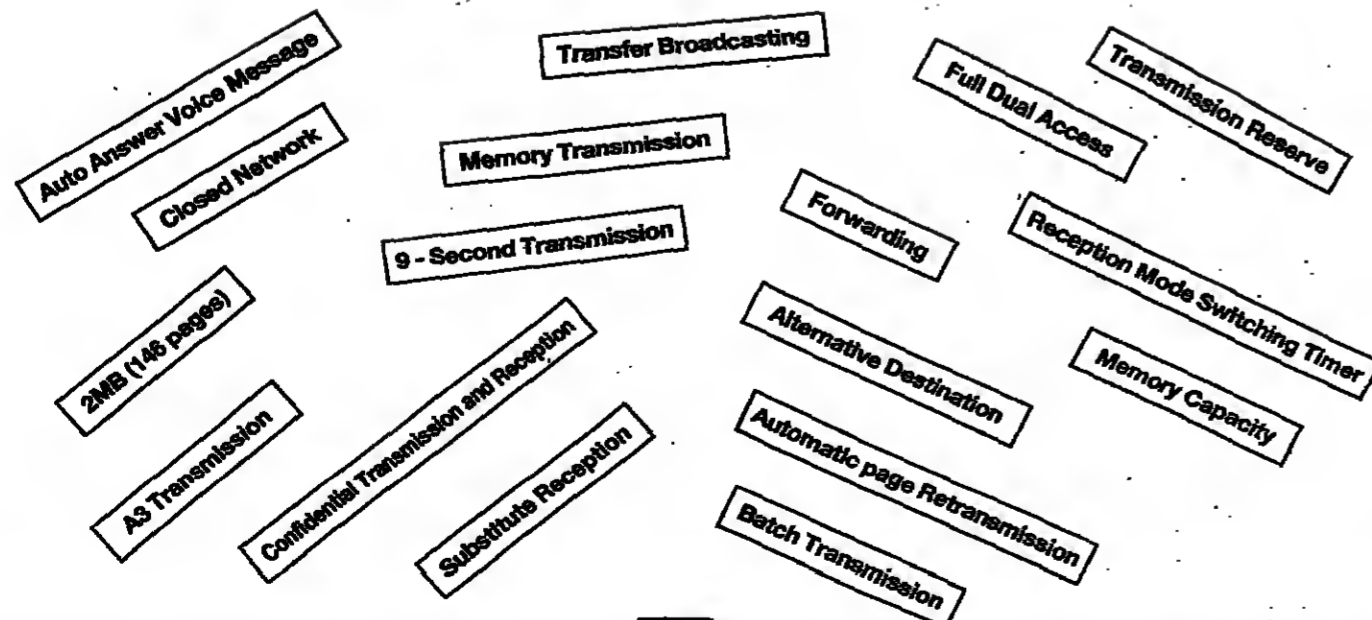
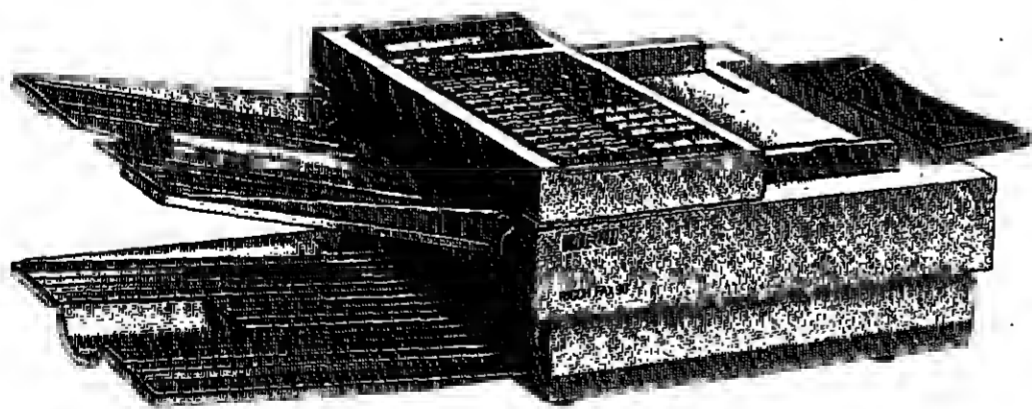
The connection between the instrument and the PC depends

on the type of instrument you use. If your instrument is only a controller and can't produce sound, the MIDI cables should run from the MIDI-out jack of the instrument to the MIDI-in jack of the interface connected to the PC and then from the MIDI-out jack of the interface to the MIDI-in jack of the sound module, which will actually produce the sound. This configuration gives the PC access to the instrument's output for recording and lets the PC access the sound module.

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Computer driven player-piano rolls

By Beth J. Harpaz

USING a computer-driven descendant of the player piano, a music scholar gave new life to more than 100 rare George Gershwin solos recorded on piano rolls.

"It is as if you are being treated to a live performance in your living room," the scholar, Artis Wodehouse of San Francisco, said recently as he showed off the technology that saved the songs.

Gershwin recorded the pieces on rolls for player pianos between 1916, when he was 17, and 1926. Player pianos were the jukeboxes of their day, Wodehouse said, and most of the Gershwin performances were his elaborate arrangements of then popular songs. Eighteen were his original compositions. Sheet music for his compositions and for his arrangements of the other pieces did not survive.

Wodehouse, a pianist herself, found 105 of the 120 piano rolls through a Michigan collector in 1988. She then found a computer firm, Micro-W Distributors Inc. of Butler, New Jersey, that had developed a technology that turns piano rolls into a format computers can read.

Micro-W put the Gershwin rolls on floppy disks that can be played on synthesizers or a computer-driven update of the player piano, the Yamaha Disklavier.

The Gershwin songs emanated from a Disklavier in a performance at Yamaha's Communication Centre in New York.

Gershwin "would love it," Wodehouse said. "He would be tickled with the technology. He was a great believer in the new. And he would have been delighted to learn that people still cared about his music."

Virtuoso

Gershwin, one of the United States' greatest composers and a piano virtuoso, died in 1937. His first big claim to fame came in 1919 with the release of "Swanee," but his position in the annals of music history was secured in 1924 by "Rhapsody in Blue."

A few years ago, Wodehouse transcribed sheet music for several old 78 RPM Gershwin records. "I went over and over them," she said. "It took about 150 hours to transcribe a three-minute piece" because his arrangements were so elaborate. When those pieces were published, she became well-

known among Gershwin lovers and about a year ago she won a national endorsement for the arts grant to study Gershwin piano rolls.

Micro-W had just created a technology that could read the piano rolls, which Wodehouse compared to long pieces of toilet paper with little pin pricks in them. Player pianos read the rolls by blowing air through the holes, triggering hammers inside the pianos.

The computer data was made by taking pictures of images of light aimed through the holes, and putting that data onto disks, she said.

Wodehouse then persuaded the Coda Music Software Co. to adapt its music transcription programme finale to transform the Micro-W disks into sheet music. Seven of the original Gershwin compositions found on the rolls are scheduled to be published by Warner Bros. she

said.

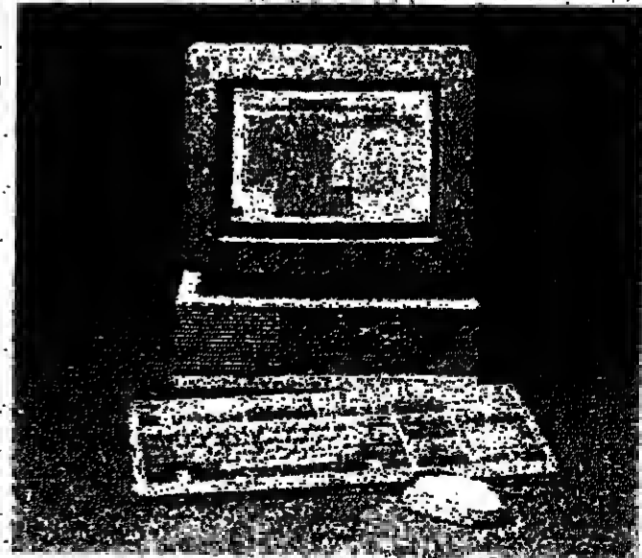
If all 18 of the Gershwin works are published, it will more than double the existing Gershwin solo sheet music repertoire, Wodehouse said. Plans also are in the works to create recordings of the Gershwin rolls.

Player pianos fell into disuse during the depression, when they were hacked up for scrap wood and replaced by record players.

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Long haul PC protection

By Peggy Wallace

Though PCs have grown increasingly reliable over the years, no one has managed to repeal this corollary to Murphy's Law: disk drives, monitors, and printers always seem to fail the day after the warranty expires.

To protect your equipment from the ravages of time, you have two options. You can assume the worst and buy a service contract in advance, or hope for the best and pay for service when you need it. You're taking a chance either way, but the decision ultimately hinges on the amount of time you can afford to be without your system.

Pay as you go
Most PC owners save their money up front and gamble that nothing major will happen to their systems, according to a survey by market researchers Business Products Consulting Group, of Centerport, New York. If something does go wrong, they pay for service on a "time-and-materials" basis.

Labour is the primary cost in time-and-materials repairs, averaging \$40 to \$75 per hour, and some large repair companies charge well over \$100 per hour. Many shops mandate a two-hour minimum charge for on-site service, and some even tack on round-trip mileage for service calls. You'll usually pay less if you drop off or mail in your PC.

According to Business Products Consulting Group, the average repair runs about \$257, approximately half the cost of an average service contract. The as-needed approach can be a good deal if you can survive a few days to a week while your PC sits in the shop.

Of course, you still have to figure out where to take your ailing system. Your first choice should be the dealer from whom you bought it. Authorized dealers offer highly trained technicians who generally have spare parts at the store.

You may also have leverage with the salesperson who received a fat commission for selling you the system in the first place. But be on your toes



many dealers devote more energy to sales than to service and have only a token service staff saddled with a huge backlog of repairs. So, before you buy your equipment, tour the repair shop and ask about turnaround time — although most shops take up to a week for a repair, some will fix a PC within 24 hours.

Stacking the odds

If you bought your system through the mail or prefer not to go to the original dealer, select a store that regularly services your brand of equipment. A larger shop with several technicians on call is a good bet, as is an older, well-established business. Avoid shops that send you PC to a distant service centre, since you can mail it

yourself and save the markup.

Time-and-materials repairs, whether done in a service centre or on-site, can be economical — but not when your hard disk is at stake. Fixing a 30MB disk costs from \$500 to \$650 for on-site work, and from \$350 to nearly \$600 when you send it in. Even if you can repair it yourself, you're looking at roughly \$350 just to acquire the parts.

A service contract might have covered the repair for about the same cost. But the real point of a service contract is to keep your business going. If the PC serves as the heart of your business, the \$400-to-\$600 cost of a one-system service contract can be a bargain. Under a contract, the vendor generally guarantees to respond to a computer crisis

within a strictly specified time (usually four or eight hours) and will often loan you a system until yours is fixed. Of course, if nothing goes wrong, you're out the money. Think of it as insurance: if you can't afford the loss, you've got to have the protection.

Service contracts can cover all parts and labour or labour only and are generally written for entire systems. But read the fine print. Some companies charge extra — usually \$40 to \$150 — for additional components, such as monitors and printers, that are likely to break down. Remember that a guaranteed response rate means just what it says: someone will respond to, but not necessarily solve, your PC problem within a certain

time. If downtime is particularly crucial, request a guaranteed time for completion of repairs.

The best way to find a good service contract is to ask for a list of references. Quiz at least a half-dozen customers about a firm's reliability and response time. Pay attention to the types of references you get: if they all come from large corporations and you're a one-person shop, your lone PC may be less of a priority; look elsewhere.

Don't use price as your bottom line. The computer repair business is very sensitive to cash flow, and some outfits offer low prices to stave off mounting debts. Six months later, such a company may be too busy in bankruptcy court to care about your lifeless monitor or rattling floppy drive.

Writing aid that makes it impossible to write

Grammatik Mac

By Jack Lesar

WRITING is difficult for many people, but a new writing aid for Macintosh Computers could make it downright impossible.

Reference software hosts its new Grammatik Mac Writing-Improvement Programme — will improve your writing in 30 days or your money back. Spending 30 days with Grammatik Mac, however, could render users incapable of writing the San Francisco Software Publisher to request the promised refund.

The programme is a mishmash of bells and whistles that calls attention to what it perceives as errors and suggests revisions. But the errors it cites often are not errors, and the revisions it suggests are sometimes inane or, worse, erroneous.

An excerpt from a basic reading primer — The old story of Dick and Jane and their dog Spot — stumped Grammatik Mac. The programme was tripped up by the sentence: "Dick and Jane play with spot." "No verb found," Grammatik Mac protested. "This may be an incomplete sentence."

Wrong. In another test, it checked the sentence, "The advice Grammatik Mac gives is hard to accept."

The programme flagged the word "accept" and advised: "Accept" means to receive: "please accept my offer." "Except" means to leave out: "Except the last provision of the contract."

Beside the "replace with" button it displayed the word "effect." That is dead wrong.

While the programme was only suggesting that "accept" might be wrong, it appeared to be recommending the incorrect word. That is not the kind of help a writer unsure of grammar needs.

The programme had similar

problems with "affect" and "effect," and provided equally misleading advice.

It also is inconsistent. It will detect a grammar error in a document, and miss the same error in a copy of that document.

Some errors it will not find at all. It detected nothing wrong with this sentence: "Programmers work in an office where people talk strange and have odd clothing."

Comparison

Grammatik Mac features an array of eye-catching features — like a chart that compares the readability of your document to the gettysburg address, a Hemingway short story and an insurance policy.

It also allows users to customise the comparison chart by replacing the readability statistics for one or more of the three standard documents. You could, for example, substitute a first draft of something you are writing for the insurance policy, then use the comparison feature to track your progress.

Or you could replace the Hemingway story statistics with your company's model sales proposal and check your work against that standard.

Grammatik Mac provides readability statistics on the Flesch reading ease scale, the Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level Scale and Gunning's Fog Index.

It also provides statistics on the average length of paragraphs, sentences and words — in both letters and syllables — and a plethora of other trivia.

But it fails to accomplish its primary tasks. Its grammar and punctuation checkers are inconsistent, and its spelling checker is cumbersome.

As for style, when fed a passage from Shakespeare — Portia's speech from "The Merchant of Venice" about the quality of mercy — Grammatik Mac pronounced it choppy and suggested revision.

Grammatik Mac also is plagued by bugs.

Running under multifinder, icons of the Grammatik Mac folder would frequently disappear when I quit the application. When I closed and reopened the folder, they reappeared.

The programme also failed to recognise paragraphs — an significant shortcoming, since the number of sentences per paragraph is one factor used in assessing readability.

Failure

Only on could I make it discern paragraphs — and that was when I used it to check the "Read Me" file in the Grammatik Mac folder.

It failed in all other attempts, using documents in Macwrite and Microsoft Word 4.0 formats as well as documents created with those word processors and stored as plain text.

The supplemental documentation cautions that Grammatik Mac may not recognise paragraphs unless documents are stored using the "Save As" option. I tried using both the Save As and the Quick Save options, and in no case could I make the programme recognise paragraphs.

Strangely, paragraph marks appeared on the screen when documents were checked in the programmes fully interactive mode, but the document statistics file consistently showed the document as one long paragraph.

Ironically, the programme comes with an excellent book on writing by veteran newspaper editor Dewitt H. Scott, Scott's book, "Secrets of Successful Writing," should be standard equipment for anyone who writes.

Grammatik Mac, on the other hand, should be avoided. SOFTWARE: Grammatik Mac by Reference Software, 330 Townsend Street, San Francisco, California, 94107.

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COMPUTERS AND OFFICE AUTOMATION: AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Lightning access to memory banks

New ways to use laser beams

DISK storage has become the sluggish among PC components. Processing chips and communications buses now handle data dozens of times faster than they did a decade ago. Unlike these purely electronic components, however, disk drives are limited because they are mechanical devices: platters and read/write heads can never move with the breakneck speed of electrons scurrying through circuits.

That won't be a problem forever. Researchers are working on 3-D memory units bolographic data storage techniques that circumvent the mechanical slowness inherent in disk drives. By the end of the 1990s, data storage may be the fastest component in a computer instead of the slowest. The trick is to write with light.

Although laser beams already play a role in storing data on CD-ROMs and WORM (write-once read-many) disks, these "optical drives" still require spinning platters and read/write arms that trudge back and forth over the disksurface. The new technology will have no mechanical moving parts at all.

Three-dimensional lasers
At the University of California in Irvine, chemistry professor Peter M. Rentzepis is successfully experimenting with what he calls "three-dimensional memory." Rentzepis uses lasers to write data to photosensitive chemicals embedded in a plastic cube. Ultraviolet lasers mounted at right angles on different sides of the cube fire their beams simultaneously, and

photochromic chemicals absorb the light where the beams intersect. When the two UV lasers hit molecules of the photochromic materials, they weaken the bond holding the molecules together, thereby bending them. Each clump of bent molecules — about a cubic micron in size — represents one bit.

To read data, the device shoots green laser beams through the cube. The green light excites the bent molecules, causing them to emit a red light. A photodiode picks up that light and generates a pulse of electricity, which it sends to the computer's bus. The system uses still another wave length to erase data.

Rentzepis envisions ultimately aiming the lasers through liquid-crystal lenses. A combination of electrical currents applied to the crystals would control the focus of the lens, eliminating the need for moving parts.

Without any moving parts, 3-D memory would be incredibly fast. Today's drives measure access time in milliseconds (thousandths of a second), with 18ms considered exceptionally fast. Rentzepis contends the 3-D storage devices could access data in 9 to 10 nanoseconds (billionths of a second). Writing to 3-D memory would be even faster. With this technology, Rentzepis says, "the speed of a computer would be limited by the processor rather than the

memory."

Just as impressive as 3-D memory's high-speed data access is its immense storage capacity. The system theoretically would allow the storage of 1,250 gigabytes — the equivalent of more than 3 million double-density floppy disks — in a hunk of plastic a little bigger than a sugar cube. Rentzepis doubts that 3-D memory will ever reach its theoretical limit, but he does think it's practical to create cubes that will hold a trillion bits, or 125 gigabytes.

Holographic data
At the Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corporation, a research consortium in Austin, Texas, engineers have come up with an

By Ron White

approach to memory storage that is less dramatic than Rentzepis' but perhaps one that is closer to realization. Funded by several high-tech firms, MCC has developed a way to use lasers to record data on holograms.

Like Rentzepis' 3-D memory, holographic storage uses intense light to create changes in crystals. Unlike Rentzepis' cube, though, the system lays holographic crystals on a flat surface. To create additional density, several layers can be stacked on top of one another, and focusing lasers from

different angles, several holograms can be overlaid in the same area. MCC hopes to produce a storage medium about the shape and size of a 5-1/4-inch floppy disk that's able to hold 100MB of data. The next generation might hold a gigabyte of storage.

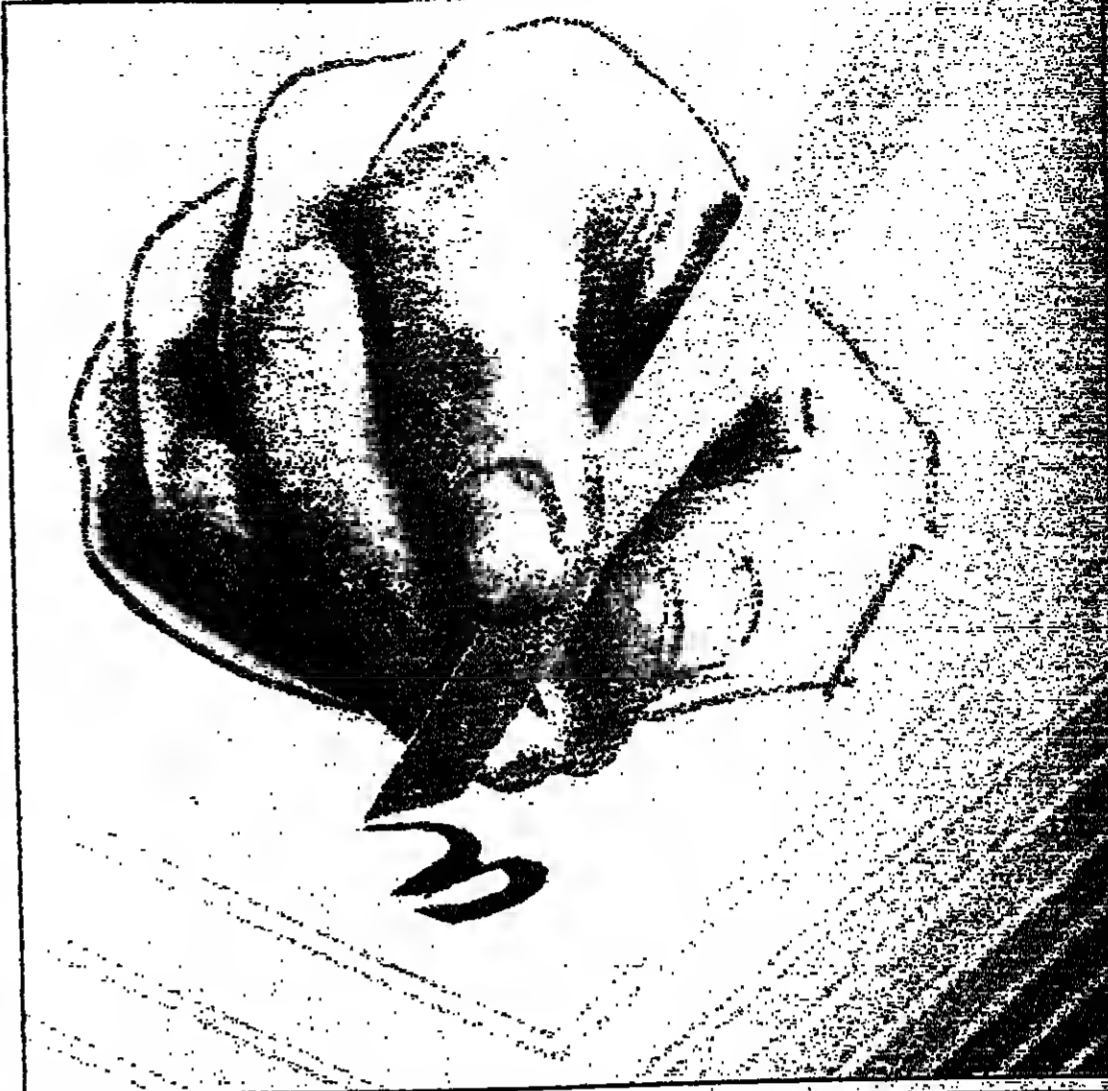
The key advantage to MCC's plan is speed. Steve Redfield, director of the optics and computing programme at MCC, predicts access times as fast as 10 microseconds (millionths of a second) and write speeds of 100 microseconds, about 1,000 times faster than today's fastest hard drives. One way holographic memory works so fast is by recording thousands of bits of data simultaneously, the way a photograph records its image all in the instant that a camera's shutter is open.

The nature of holography also gives the medium a remarkable degree of redundancy and data security — an issue of great importance to anyone who has ever lost vital information due to a glitch in data storage. Holographic memory is redundant because it is made up of the overall lightwave pattern created by the clash of two laser beams. Data resides in the pattern rather than in distinct dots for each bit, so you could punch a hole in the sheet that contains the hologram without destroying any particular bit of data.

While Rentzepis' 3-D memory is not redundant, he notes that the plastic cubes are tough. "I wouldn't suggest you throw it against the wall, but you could ... and it wouldn't do it a lot of harm," he claims.

Even more important for military aerospace applications, both 3-D and bolographic storage are immune to radiation, which can wipe out data stored on conventional RAM chips. MCC is applying to the Department of Defence for additional funding, and Rentzepis has gotten financial assistance from the Air Force. At the same time, DARPA is funding the development of bolographic processing chip technology at the Jet Propulsion Lab at CalTech.

Although 3-D memory may have more long-term potential, holographic memory is likely to reach the market first. MCC has been working on a prototype of a holographic memory device for three years, and the consortium is now beginning a second, two-year phase, designed to produce a working version of the system, dubbed Bobcat II. MCC will not produce the product itself but will turn over the technology to member companies that funded the research. It will be up to them to bring holographic memory to market.



Making the right choice

Computers are exciting business tools which have the potential to increase management awareness of business performance, interdepartmental cohesion, and business expansion and profitability. If misapplied they can also ruin you, be you sole trader or government department.

Generally installed right at the core of the administration, a defective computer system is certain to damage profits and perhaps erode turnover. Consequential losses can be catastrophic.

A manufacturer of high volume joinery products with a design concept of common components and modularity has enjoyed business growth and has decided to buy a computer to provide an automated manufacturing control system. Why?

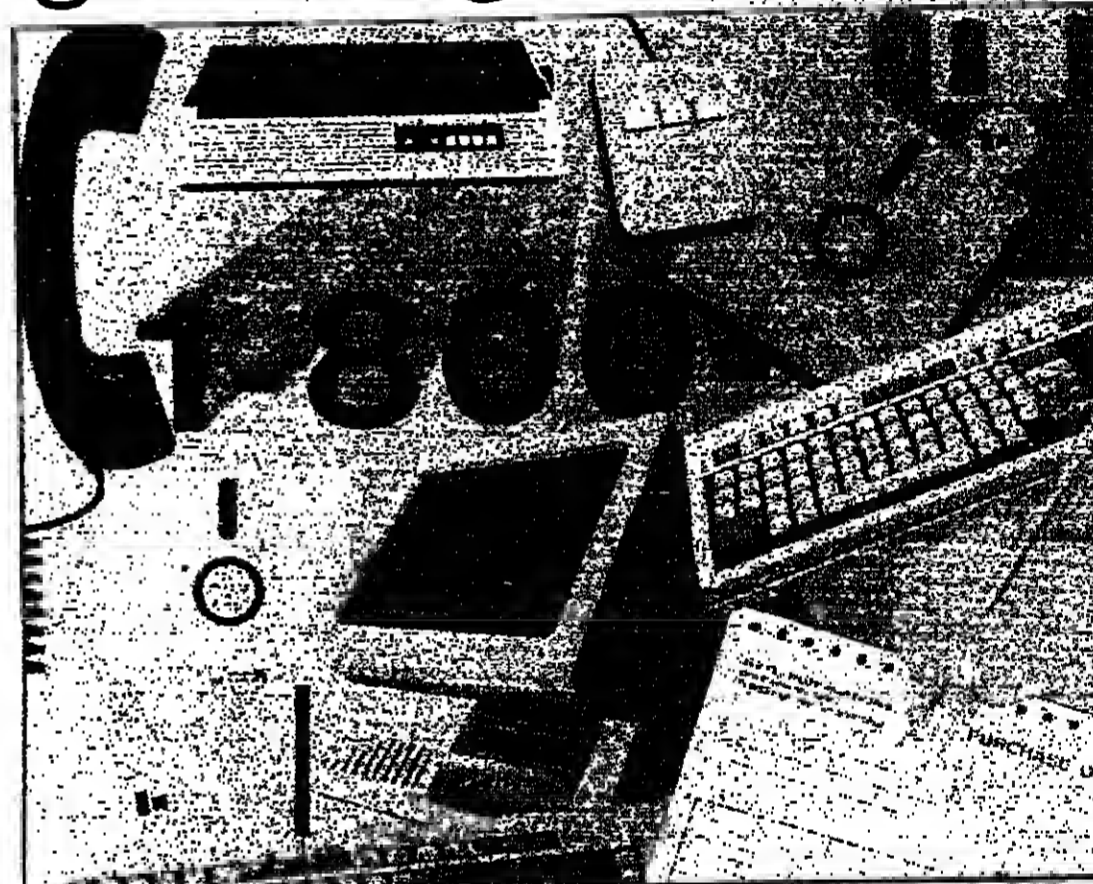
The expectation is improved profit. Better control of purchasing should lead to an improvement in price and achievement of required delivery dates; stock control to consequential improvement in cash flow and possible elimination of obsolescence; and manufacturing control to improvements in efficiency from better plant and personal utilisation.

A small sales and marketing organisation has also seen growth and has decided that future growth rate would improve with the installation of a computer system — a system which includes mailing software. Why?

The expectation is improved profit: higher turnover to be generated by the use of a mailing system.

A district council wants an expensive computer upgrade in order to provide the capacity to process the increased data in connection with the community charge. Why?

The expectation is to perform that function with a given



number of operational personnel and at a known cost. The district council has to process vast amounts of data in connection with the new community charge. The upgrade is necessary to perform that requirement.

In operational terms each of these should have carefully considered their expectations and discussed it with their suppliers. The financial implications may never have been discussed. Even though both contracting parties have a vested interest in ensuring a totally successful installation.

Yet, it is surprising how often a user has advised the supplier that he wants a system "to do the accounts" for example, and the supplier has simply responded with a one-page

quotation. Neither party can begin to understand the needs of the other. Put your expectations in writing before signing the contract. This has a two-fold purpose. Firstly that the would-be user concentrates not only on the organisational expectations of the system, but also on the costs and benefits relating to it. Secondly, it provides for the supplier written evidence of the user's expectations and would be likely to trigger an appropriate response if the supplier felt that the recommended system would not fulfil them.

A simplified example of expectation costing for the marketing company might be:

Previous to system installation: performance of 3000 mailings per week at a total

annual cost of £35,000.
● Expectation of mailing performance with computer: 5000 mailings per week at the same labour cost (adjusted for inflation).

● Expectation, therefore, of increase of annual mailings from 156,000 to 260,000, at same labour cost as before.

● Ultimate expectation is therefore to reduce unit labour cost of mailings by 40 per cent.

For every prospective user, the careful identification and discussion of expectations is of great importance. Computers should be treated by business managers in the same way as any other proposed purchase — with careful consideration given to both cost and benefits as well as application.

From Bull

New generation of Unix systems

THE different families of single and multiprocessor Bull DPX/2 open systems were designed from the outset to incorporate the latest technology advances. They also benefit from the new B.O.S. (Bull Open Software) environment built around UNIX System V 3.1 and open to a vast range of software tools and applications available on the market.

The new Bull DPX/2 range consists of three families (Bull DPX/2 100, 200 and 300), differing in internal architecture and physical appearance.

The Bull DPX/2 100 family is based on industry standard PC architecture, using the 386/ix operating system developed by Interactive Systems Corporation. Today, Bull announces a first model in this family, the Bull Micral 600/ix with PC-AT bus architecture, designed around a 25 MHz Intel 80386 microprocessor.

The first model in the Bull DPX/2 200 family is a particularly compact system built around a highly integrated motherboard (Motorola's 25 MHz 68030 microprocessor). Incorporating leading

edge technology, the Bull DPX/2 210 model is fitted with fast SCSI controllers, a powerful peripheral bus (Multibus II, supporting most VME boards available on the market) and an ECP communication processor, developed by Bull, with two synchronous ports for connecting the system to local area or public networks.

The two Bull DPX/2 300 models (Bull DPX/2 320 with one or two 25 MHz 68030 processors, and Bull DPX/2 340 with up to four 33 MHz 68030 processors) are built around an original fully symmetric multiprocessor architecture offering a particularly high performance. Full scalability and compatibility are obtained through an advanced SLM (Shared Local Memories) architecture in which local memories are associated to each central processing unit. Each processor accesses its own memory via a local bus and is linked to the other processors by the Multibus II. The modular design of the Bull DPX/2 300 offers a straightforward expansion path for any part of the system. Agents: Bader Al Mulla & Bros Co. W.L.L.

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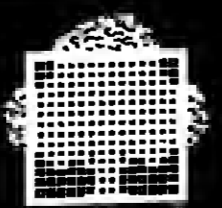
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Putting computers on the fast track

RAYNARD Racing makes more racing cars than anyone else in the world. Last year, in the middle of designing a new gearbox for its formula 3000 car, the Oxfordshire company installed a computer aided design (CAD) system.

"We started the gearbox design on paper, transferred it to the new CAD system — and discovered that we'd made mistakes," says the Raynard designer Mark Slade. "When we merged the individual parts together on the CAD system, the end cover for the main gearbox shafts wasn't deep enough."

"Our suppliers were in the process of making parts, and we were able to tell them so they all fitted together at the prototype build. If we hadn't had the CAD system we would have had to send the parts back and that would have lost us two weeks or so."

"Designers often get tunnel vision," believes Clive Turner, Raynard's manufacturing manager. "They design one part and forget what it has to do. The beauty of CAD is that you can design components in isolation, then bring them together and see whether they fit."

CAD has a particular benefit for a company dependent on rapid development cycles. As Clive Turner puts it, "If we lose a race the designers have only two or three weeks to design something to make the car go faster, and then to run off prototypes for testing. And if our customers notice an improvement, then we have to make 50 for the next race."

"At last year's Le Mans 3000 race the designers decided we needed a shorter wheelbase car. They redesigned a suspension component, and we then had to make 15 sets. These are the sort of things that land on your lap in manufacturing and CAD is crucial for us to manage that kind of turn-around."

Malcolm Oastler, the chief designer, adds: "A conventional car maker like Ford has maybe a three-year time scale for

putting a new gearbox into production. But we started designing ours in June last year and we've now got thirty of them."

Raynard has used high tech methods for years, often developing its own systems, such as an in-car data capture system to monitor factors like damper displacement, steering movements, air pressure, throttle position, and engine speed for downloading to a laptop computer for analysis.

Partly as a result of this technology investment, Raynard's Formula 3000 cars (machines in the 450 bhp, 190 mph category — the final rung before Formula 1) have won every race they've entered, and its Formula 3 machines, likewise dominate their sector. This has led to an output of some 250 cars a year, helping Britain to produce 90 per cent of the world's racing cars.

A Raynard Formula 3000 car costs £75,000 (plus the £60,000 price tag on the Cosworth or Judd engine), and late last year the 80-stroog company unveiled a prototype Formula 1 car which it hopes will lead to the most lucrative sector of all.

Already Raynard's move into CAD seems only a stepping stone to CAM (Computer Aided Manufacture). The company's Bicester headquarters is split into two halves. The CAD system, supplied by Cimlink of Nottingham, operates on three Sun Sparc workstations in the shirt-sleeves atmosphere of the company's design offices.

Just across the Bicester industrial estate which Raynard calls home is the clangour of machine tools and the whiff of oxy-acetylene: it's where Raynard makes many of the components of its cars, and it will be the scene of the company's next step to computerisation.

Clive Turner says "With the Cimlink system we got something that would not just be a fantastic design tool but enable us to quickly transfer the

designs to our manufacturing operation — which means links to CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machine tools. At the moment drawings need to be re-interpreted and re-drawn before machining, and there's a lot of room for error. We want to design it and then use CAM software to tell the cutter where it has to go to produce the profile that we want."

"And eventually we can get analysis software to look at stresses and strains to design more efficient components to minimise weight."

Raynard and Cimlink also agree on a still further stage in the company's computerisation, the installation of intelligent documentation — records capable of seeking their own data from separate parts of the company computer network, merging CAD graphics with information from databases and report files, and feeding that data to departments such as purchasing and manufacture.

Cimlink's Phil Morris says "Over the next couple of years I want to put intelligent documentation software throughout the company — starting with the manufacturing end, to merge together information on the shop floor at the very point when people need it, so they don't have to wait for half a week for documents to reach them — which might therefore be out of date."

"For a number of years we wanted to go computer-aided," says Raynard's managing director, Rick Gorne. "But we heard of other racing car manufacturers who'd found it wasn't beneficial as they'd thought, or they'd got the wrong system, or their designers didn't understand it and it wasted their time. So it frightened us a bit. But we looked at the problem for a good 18 months before deciding on the Cimlink system, and then talked to Cimlink for nine months before we had the system installed. We've now got a much more effective and efficient way of designing."



Malcolm Oastler and Colin Turner of Raynard Racing

Tax help time once again

By Allan S. Papkin

As usual at this time of year, computer tax programmes are about as abundant on store shelves as toys before Christmas.

All proclaim to give you more features, more help and a better look and feel. I found two I think really deliver. Personal Tax Preparer and Macintax for Windows.

Personal Tax Preparer from Parson Technology, while quite a bit less glitzy than most of the more well-known commercial packages, deserves serious consideration. The programme does all it claims without costing an arm and a leg.

As with other tax packages it gives you a look and feel of the tax form. The look here is less than realistic, since the programme runs in text mode.

But this should not be considered as a minus, because personal tax preparer guides you through your tax preparation better than any package I have tried.

The error-trapping data entry is so good it will even catch an incorrectly entered social security number (too long or short). If any required data is left out, the programme halts until it is entered.

Alternatives
About the only way to avoid stopping and bypassing the demanded entry is to make an incorrect entry, then re-enter the correct data later.

As with most tax programmes, Personal Tax Preparer will let you do "What-ifs" to examine various tax situations and filing alternatives.

The manual guides you line-by-line and form-by-form through your return.

The programme's built-in pop-up calculator and note pad are valuable bonuses. In addition, there is a financial calculator for computing loan interest, investment interest and even future value of investments. It also allows you to print amortization and accumulation schedules.

Estimator
There is also a tax estimator for your 1990 taxes. This uses data entered for this year to estimate next year's tax liability.

Prior setup is a bit tricky. The programme comes with defaults for IBM, Epson, Okidata and several other well known dot-matrix printers, but the user must enter the control codes for their specific model. This is not complicated, however. Just enter the data supplied with your printer.

Personal Tax Preparer also supports laser printers.

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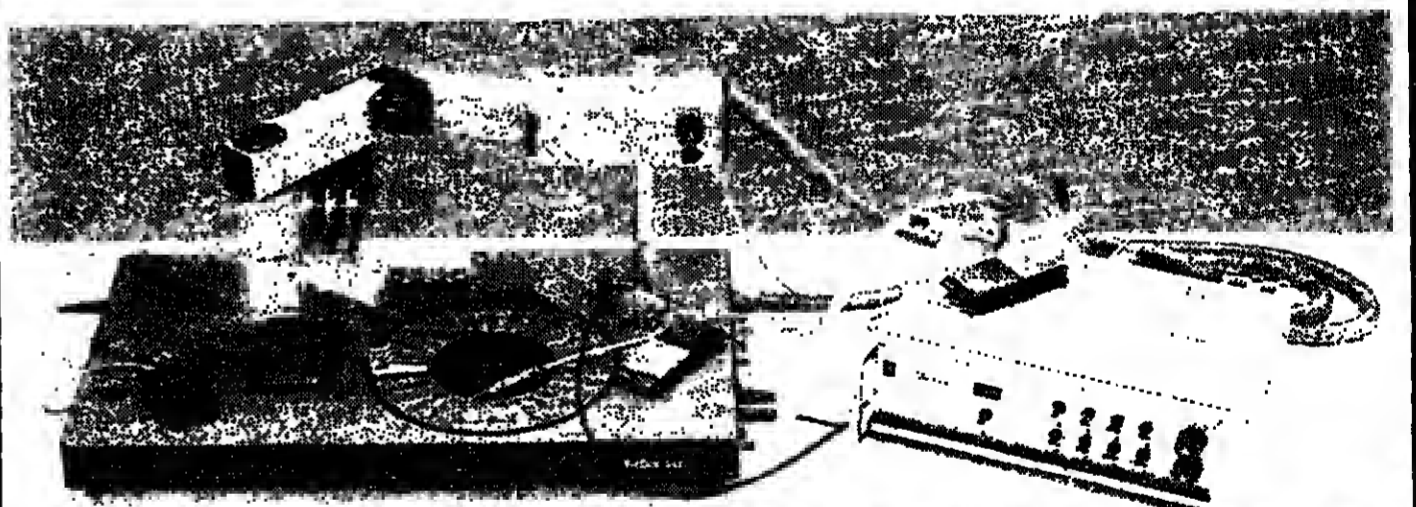
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COMPUTERS AND OFFICE AUTOMATION:

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Saudis enact law to protect software

A copy of the law, as translated into English by the US embassy in Riyadh states:

Article 2: Protection under the jurisdiction of this law shall be afforded to authors of classified creative works in science, literature and arts, without regard to the type of the classified work, its mode of expression, its significance or the purpose of composition.

Article 3: In general, protection under this law shall cover authors of classified works whose mode of expression is either written, sound, painting, photography or motion, particularly the following: (there follows a list of works, including books, dramatic works, broadcast, paintings and other art, photography, practical art, illustrative pictures) but the tenth classification is: trade names also appear to get protection. Article 4 says: "The title of the classified work shall also be covered under copyright protection if it is distinguished by a creative characteristic, and is not

A new law for the protection of software against piracy was issued by Royal Decree in December. Protection of copyright was signed by HM The Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd, in December, and SaudiSoft claims to have the first software package to be registered under the law, its transparent Arabisation package Al Mussa'ed Al Arabi/2.

merely an expression which is commonly used to indicate the subject matter of the classified work."

The penalties provided by the law are graduated and severe: for a first offence, the offender may incur a fine not exceeding SR 10,000 and his business may be closed down for 15 days or both. For a second offence, regardless of what is copied, the fine specified may be doubled, and the business closed for up to 90 days or both. Significantly though, even for a first offence, compensation must be paid to holder of the copyright for any damage resulting from the violation. It is possible also to require that products that infringe copyright are destroyed.

These penalties will be applied, in the event of a successful copyright case, by

a committee, the Infringement Oversight Committee, which is to be formed by a minimum of three members, one of whom is a legal advisor. Decisions will be by majority vote, but will not take effect without the approval of the minister of information.

That software can be copyrighted in KSA is confirmed by the publication of this law, and this was confirmed by the KSA Ministry of Information. However, it is not yet clear to what extent protection is extended. The law still requires to be interpreted to determine what and how software will be protected. This process is expected to take another two or three months.

However, these laws do not apply automatically. Software must be registered

with the ministry and approved by the ministry. Software that originates from outside of the kingdom must be registered by a Saudi Arabian company. The distributor or agent will fill in an application form, and submit it to the ministry along with two copies of software package and the agreement between distributor and software manufacturer. The ministry will employ an examiner, who will determine if copyright protection is to be extended to the distributor. Then a further five copies of the software must be lodged with the MoI library.

This procedure is the same for software that originates within the kingdom too, except of course it will be applied on behalf of the software manufacturer himself. The distributor will probably have to show that it has the permission of the international software manufacturer to register the product, and that it is capable of supporting the product in KSA.

Ten things your mother should have told you about computers

If you can count on one person in this life, it's your mother. Particularly, you can rely on any mom anywhere to find the perils in heret in any situation. Indeed, no self-respecting mom ever misses an opportunity to caution her children about the dangers of everything from comic books to pool halls to public lavatories.

Still, unless your mom was a real visionary, she probably didn't get much chance to warn you about PCs. Back when she was in peak nagging form, she probably hadn't even heard of the cursed things.

You may think that's just as well. We don't agree. The PC jungle is too scary to explore without knowing the answer to that comforting question, "What would mom say about this?"

So, after months of exhaustive polling of computer-savvy moms around the country (there are more than you think), we've assembled the following list of ten PC perils your mother would have warned you about, if only she'd known. Take them seriously — Mom knows what she's talking about.

Playing too much Tetris will make you go blind. Go outside, get some fresh air. Do you want to look like a ghost all your life?

Never dial into strange bulletin board systems. Who knows what kind of riffraff you'll find there? Just last week I saw a show about the kind of trash that hangs out on these systems. "Modem bums," they're called. If they're so interested in information, why don't they go to a library?

Don't talk on the phone and debug spreadsheet macros at the same time. It's very rude, and frankly, I don't like your language when the macro doesn't work the way you think it should.

Clean up your hard disk. God forbid you should be in an accident and someone should see how sloppy your subdirectories are.

You don't have to rush out and buy every trendy new product. So what if all your friends are buying it and the word is that it'll be the next standard? You wouldn't jump off a bridge just because everyone else did, would you?

Be sure to write your name and telephone number on all of your floppy disk sleeves. That way, if they ever get mixed up

with someone else's, you can tell which ones are yours.

Never put a disk into your drive if you don't know where it's been. Your computer might catch a disease or something. Don't laugh, it's not funny. That's what happened to the Kelly boy, and his PC hasn't been the same since.

Shut up straight, and, for heaven's sake, not so close to that monitor screen. What do you want to do, go blind and look like a pretzel?

Always keep your icons and windows neatly arranged. A cluttered desktop metaphor is the sign of a cluttered mind.

Always eat your vegetables. OK, so it doesn't have anything to do with computers; it's good advice anyway. And who said mothers had to be consistent?

Paul Bonner

Errors: Serious consequences

Recently a number of Parisians guilty of nothing more sinister than a few minor motor offences received summonses for crimes ranging from extortion to living off immoral earnings. The guilty party was a bug in the court computer.

Computer errors can have serious business consequences. You may fail to get your VAT returns in on time, or an electricity board may wrongly cut off supplies. Banks may dishonour cheques when funds exist to meet the debt.

The victims of these computer errors may want a legal remedy. Computers cannot be sued; their operators and programmers may be. The first thing to remember is that "Sorry" is a computer error — may well be an inadequate defence in law.

In both civil and criminal cases different degrees of fault have to be proved to establish liability for different wrongful acts. You may only be liable if you intended to commit the act in question. In other cases it will be sufficient if you were negligent.

Taxpayers become liable unless they can prove they have a reasonable excuse for late payment of VAT returns. Cases show that computer problems may be a reasonable excuse, but you must be seen to have taken precautions to minimise possible disruption.

- Get a good software package. The excuse that an inefficient software package was cheaper will carry no weight with Customs.
- Keep your old system until you are sure the new one is working.
- Maintain back-up tapes.
- Call maintenance support as soon as you become aware of the problem.
- If appropriate send an estimated assessment of VAT to Customs while matters are being sorted out.
- Keep good computer records.

The electricity board which



disconnects the wrong people might also find itself in breach of contract. It is certainly advisable to make provision in any contracts with customers that computer errors which are not your fault (for example, which are caused by negligent programming by your software supplier) do not make you liable. If you do not, your customers will be entitled to seek damages for all losses (for example factories might claim for loss of production while the

power was off). Such contractual provisions need careful drafting and it is sensible to seek legal advice first.

Dishonouring a cheque — if it is made clear this is because the drawer lacks the funds to meet it — is defamation if the drawer does in fact have sufficient funds. In such cases, though an apology and prompt action to retract the defamatory statement will not prevent liability, it should lessen the likelihood of damages needing

to be awarded. Again, there are general lessons to be learned. When you are passing information from a computer to a third party allow for the information being wrong. Take care to understand the Data Protection Act. You may consider whether mistakes are in fact the fault of your software or hardware supplier, you can bring proceedings against it to indemnify you for the loss caused.

Computer programme picks the ponies

DETROIT, (UPI): An engineering professor says he has developed a computer programme with enough horse sense to consistently pick winners at a San Francisco-area race track.

Dick Haskell, who went to his first horse race less than a year ago, said a friend's suggestion prompted him to apply his knowledge of computers to picking the ponies. It appeared "the data analysis involved offered a test that would be both fun and challenging," he said.

Haskell said he has been working on computer learning for several years at Oakland University in suburban Detroit. Computers, in effect, learn to read, so they are able to scan texts and place the data contained in them in their files, read checks and perform other similar functions.

While that may sound like a far cry from picking winners in horse races, Haskell said the tasks "use the same basic technique."

The idea is to "have the computer learn the rules automatically by examples of what has happened in the past."

The reading computer, for example, "figures out the rules to distinguish between an 'A' and 'B' and so forth."

For racing, the computer learns "the difference between horses that have won and not won."

Haskell receives computerised data from a Lexington, Kentucky, firm and feeds it into his personal computer.

"The computer then sifts through all the characteristics of the horse, bloodlines, speed, rider track length etc., then separates the past winners from losers," Haskell said, "then creates the rules that were present when the horses won."

Golden Gate Fields park near San Francisco was selected because Haskell has a son living in the area and Detroit tracks were not running when the experiment began.

Haskell is somewhat guarded in discussing his track record with the programme.

"It blows their minds when I show people the results of the weekly tip sheet I am producing for golden gate," Haskell told Oakland University's public relations department.

But he declined to elaborate when contacted by United Press International.

Only preliminary information is available and more testing is necessary "before we want to go on record saying how great it is," he said.

Haskell admitted to placing a bet or two using the computer's advice, saying only that he did "all right."

Hacker enters Internet

NEW YORK (AP): A rogue computer programme that steals electronic documents, user passwords and erases files has been winding its way through a nation-wide computer network previously plagued in 1988, according to a published report.

The New York Times reported in recently that a computer hacker has devised a programme that infiltrated corporations, non-classified military installations, government laboratories and several universities.

Government computer security teams have been unable to trace the source of the illegal programme.

The computer network is Internet, a world-wide collection of computer systems that links corporations, government projects and universities together.

Internet was thrown into chaos in November 1988 when a programme written by Robert Tappan Morris, a graduate student at Cornell University, jammed the system.

Unidentified investigators told the times that the latest hacker has entered dozens of systems, including those of Los Alamos National Laboratory, Digital Equipment Corporation, Harvard University, Boston University and the University of Texas.

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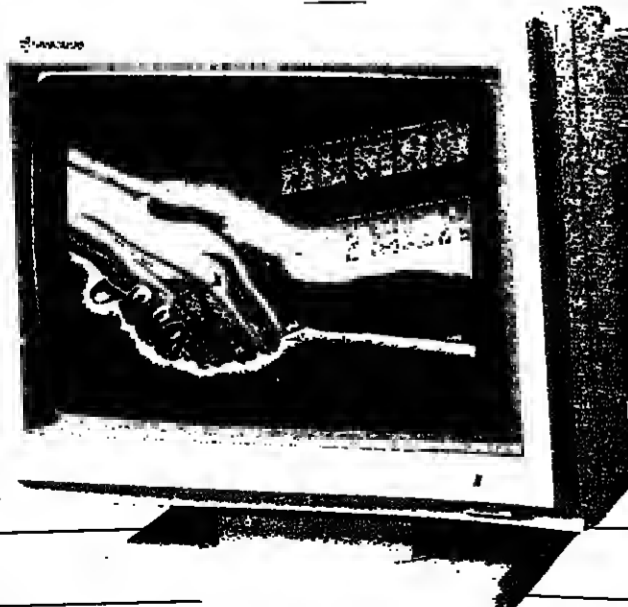
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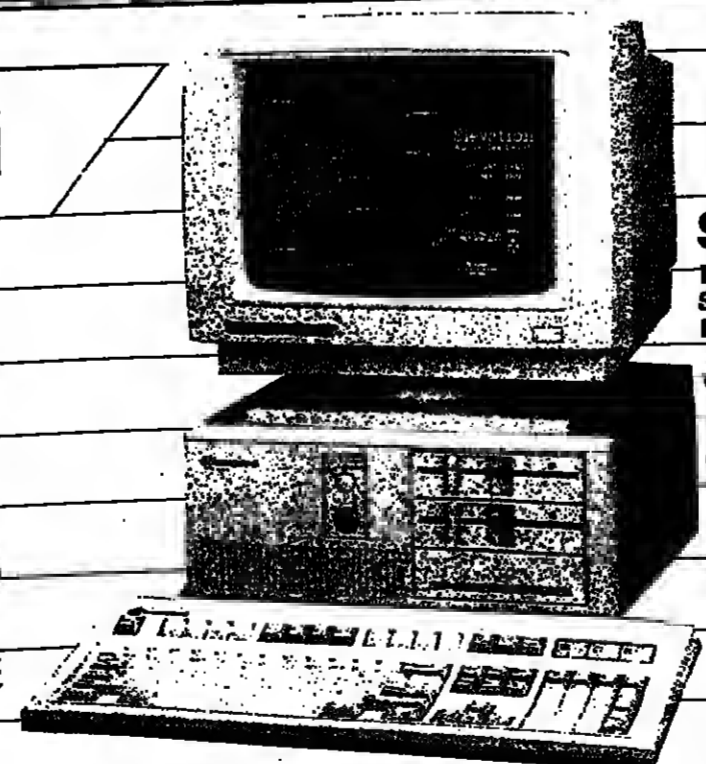
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Move to pull Algiers out of economic crisis

Algeria to open door to foreign capital

ALGIERS, March 23, (Reuters): A revolutionary finance law introduced in Algeria's parliament yesterday could allow total foreign ownership of investment projects for the first time since independence in 1962.

It would also allow foreign banks and investment institutions to open branches in the country.

Economy Minister Ghazi Hedouci told parliament it was the last and most important in a series of economic reforms designed to pull the country out of economic crisis.

Saddled with a \$24 billion foreign debt, hit by falling oil and gas revenues and troubled by social unrest, socialist Algeria proposes to give foreign investors unprecedented freedoms.

"Non-residents are authorised to transfer capital into Algeria to finance any economic activity not explicitly reserved for the state," says the draft law, a copy of which was obtained by Reuters.

Under current law foreign investment can only be in the framework of joint ventures 51 per cent controlled by an Algerian state partner.

The draft law says foreign investment must be directed into projects that create jobs and transfer technology. No project can result in a net loss of hard currency, and foreign investors cannot enjoy privileges not available to Algerians.

Foreign investors can not monopolise an economic sector and capital transfers would be subject to the control of a powerful council of money and credit.

Despite these restrictions the draft law is revolutionary in a country, that unlike neighbouring Morocco and Tunisia, has long resisted foreign investment as a threat to national sovereignty.

The government was forced to withdraw a revised joint venture law from parliament last July after deputies complained it offered too many advantages to the foreign partner.

The parliament's economic commission urged adoption of the draft's key articles and deputies said it would be put up for a vote on March 26 or 27.

"The country now suffers from the piling up of debt which represents the main obstacle to pushing development activity forward," Hedouci said.

He said hard currency revenues this year would amount to some \$10 billion, but seven billion would be spent meeting debt payments, leaving barely enough for food and other essential imports.

"There is only one way to solve this problem objectively and correctly ... effective industrial exports able to compete on foreign markets," Hedouci said.

"Our enterprises must rapidly associate themselves with partners

which would open up these markets."

Hedouci said foreign investment would help regain confidence on lenders and help the country obtain more favourable terms on new borrowing.

The draft law would boost the power of the central bank, traditionally a tool of the treasury, and allow the country's first bond issue to re-finance outstanding public sector debt Hedouci estimated at 80 billion dinars (\$10 billion).

He said the debt was a major cause of double-digit inflation which has helped spark a wave of strikes in recent months.

The treasury would be authorised to buy public sector debt and finance the

purchases through obligations of 10 years or more for a total of up to 10 billion dinars (\$1.25 billion) at a minimum interest of five per cent.

The law would give sweeping new powers to regulate foreign and domestic capital movements to the council on money and credit composed of the central bank governor, three vice-governors and three technocrats appointed by the prime minister.

The draft law also meets longstanding complaints of the private sector by placing it on an equal footing with the public sector. It would allow exporters to use their hard currency earnings as they see fit provided they were channelled through Algerian banks.

Opec conference likely to be moved from Vienna to Geneva

Oil prices could fall

MUSCAT, March 23, (Reuters): The world oil price might fall in the second quarter of this year because of a slight excess of supply over demand, a senior Omani energy official said yesterday.



Al-Chalabi

World-wide supply in the next three months could be 300,000 to 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) above demand, Rashid Al Barwani, head of marketing at the Ministry of Petroleum, said after a meeting of technical experts of non-Opec oil states.

Barwani said prices might fall as a result but did not predict how far.

About half world output comes from organisation of petroleum exporting countries (Opec) states, which will hold talks on prices and output with non-Opec countries in Muscat on Saturday.

Opec output is almost two

million bpd above its agreed 22.86 million bpd ceiling, mainly due to overproduction by some Gulf states.

Barwani said non-Opec states would not discuss Opec's quota problems in Saturday's talks.

"Naturally we are going to see a downward trend (in prices) because of historical (trends)," he said, referring to a traditional

drop in oil demand in the second quarter at the end of the northern hemisphere winter.

Other delegates said the non-Opec group would not propose a price on output level to Opec, but would present the general outlook of the market in the second quarter.

"We (non-Opec) are going to propose a joint study committee to Opec to study any topic that arises, like environment issues," Barwani said.

Delegates on Thursday also heard a study by Mexico on oil pricing systems in the market and its long term impacts.

The US state of Alaska, which suffered a big oil spill when a tanker ran aground last year, and Canada's Alberta province presented a paper on environmental issues and the oil industry, Barwani said.

Dollar drops sharply

LONDON, March 23, (Reuters): The dollar dropped sharply against the yen in Europe today after reports that Japan was looking at ways of restoring faith in its embattled currency.

But it steadied against other major currencies at the end of a rollercoaster week.

London shares rose to their highest close for the week after Wall Street put in a strong performance in the morning session in New York.

The yen recovery began in later European trading after a news report from Tokyo said that Japan may study the possibility of new issues of dollar-denominated Japanese government and government-guaranteed bonds to help increase demand for yen.

But many analysts were sceptical despite the two yen rise against the dollar.

"This looks like a temporary (yen) retrace on something which looks unlikely," said Jeremy

Hawkins, senior economic adviser at Bank of America in London. "Assuming the outcome is no change in interest rate differentials it will lead to a renewed sell-off of the yen."

The dollar closed in London at 153.20 yen after 155.25 on Thursday.

The yen has dropped steadily all week despite Tuesday's one percentage point rise in Japan's official discount rate to 5.25 per cent.

Dealers said the rise in the key interest rate — at which the bank of Japan lends to commercial banks — was not enough to restore the yen's appeal.

"We've had a budget, trade figures and a by-election and the market's still gained on the week," said one London broker.

Gold eased in quiet London trade to close at \$389.25 an ounce after \$393 on Thursday. Bullion started the week at \$402.25.



Pictured with guests from right to left: A Yokoi, director, Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan, Naser Mohamed Al Sayer, chairman of Al Sayer Group and Denis A Stickley, chief executive and managing director, Al Sayer Group.

Toyota moves forward in style

"ALWAYS room for improvement" seems to be the current motto of the Toyota Corporation of Japan, and motoring enthusiasts who attended the recent introduction of the All-New Toyota Land Cruiser at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel, attended by A Yokoi, director, Toyota, Japan, Naser Mohamed Al Sayer, chairman, Al Sayer Group, and Denis A. Stickley, chief executive and managing Director of the Group, can definitely testify to that fact.

Naturally, the Al Sayer Group certainly spared no efforts in producing a setting best suited to display the on and off-road driving capabilities of this superb example of tough-terrain motoring machinery.

Those who attended the recent reception were transported from exotic beaches to the sand-dunes of desert plains to flat-road driving. The Sayer Group yet again presented an innovative method of unveiling the latest models from Toyota Motor Corporation of Japan.

Luxury combined with over 30 years of proven toughness and durability appear to be the key elements

that set the All-New Toyota Land Cruiser apart from other 4-wheel drive vehicles.

Undoubtedly an established leader in 4-wheel drives, Toyota have gone the extra-mile by redesigning the Land Cruiser with smooth rounded lines, and by adding more than a touch of sophistication and comfort to its interior.

Many features usually only available in luxury cars, are optional in the All-New Land Cruiser CD player, 9-speaker audio system, cool box, flat seats, etc.

It is also highly evident that the invention of the superb new look of the Land Cruiser, none of its legendary driving capabilities have been lost. Plainly and simply, drivers will experience improved suspension, added power and an extra-rigid chassis making the performance of the vehicle smooth yet durable. Toyota is definitely producing a lot more car these days, and with the revamped servicing facilities being implemented at the Al Sayer Group, motorists can look forward to enjoying luxurious world-class motoring, and world class after sales services in Kuwait.

Oil prices down \$3 to 4 in '90

LONDON, March 23, (Reuters): Crude oil prices have fallen by as much as \$4 a barrel in 1990 after starting with a strong rally that encouraged speculation of a new "oil shock" before too long.

New York futures for the US benchmark West Texas Intermediate, a premium, gasoline-rich crude, traded today around \$20.20 a barrel, down from almost \$24 on January 4.

"The market is due for a short, sharp dose of medicine," said Peter Gignoux, a director in London with trading house Shearson Lehman Hutton. He predicted temporary over-supply.

One measure of ruling prices world-wide is an index computed by researchers at Britain's National Westminster Bank of average spot market quotes for the leading crude oils.

It was down this week to \$17 per barrel, a drop of \$4 since early January. Oil prices were firm at the beginning of the year largely because very cold December weather in the United States drove up demand there for heating fuel.

Several of the 13 members of Opec (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) are exceeding assigned output quotas.

Oil ministers played down the threat of a price slide. Gijunjar Kartasmita of Indonesia said on Thursday that he had obtained private pledges on output cuts "in bilateral talks between me and several ministers."

But Opec estimates that its output in February ran at 23.7 million barrels daily (bpd), at least 1.5 million above even optimistic forecasts of the call on its oil in the April-June quarter — a seasonal weak spot before the peak period of holiday gasoline demand.

An official with one leading Western oil company said that prices, which stabilised in the latter part of this week, might lose another 50 cents to a dollar before at least a partial recovery which would probably occur before the end of May.

It was "anybody's guess" exactly when this would happen. "But there is a lot of oil out there ... there are a lot of tankers that are going very slowly," this official said.

Gignoux at Shearson Lehman Hutton agreed, but said he did not expect a dramatic price fall and saw a recovery later.

Humphrey Harrison, a director with London stockbrokers Kitcat and Aitken, said recovery may depend on how vigorously the industry decides to build stocks in the April-June quarter.

"There is no reason why prices should bounce up strongly," Harrison said. He sees scope for a further fall of 50 cents on light, gasoline-rich crudes like those from the North Sea. The sulphurous "sour" Middle East varieties could drop faster.

Athens hikes interest rates

ATHENS, March 23, (AP): The Bank of Greece has raised minimum interest on savings accounts from 15 per cent to 16 per cent starting April 1, in a bid to cover payments to the public sector for April, an official announcement said today.

The central bank said it had also ordered financial institutions to reduce lending and boost their stake in government bonds.

Starting April 1 minimum interest on bank loans will rise by one percentage point, representing an increase from 17 per cent to 18 per cent on working capital and 16 to 17 per cent on mid-to-long-term loans.

The banks said the moves, which also aimed to ease pressure on the balance of payments, may lead to further rises in the interest rates.

It said the new interest levels were determined by spiralling public sector deficits estimated at 2.5 trillion drachmas (\$15.6 billion) in 1990 and inflation of more than 14 per cent.

From March 31, banks will increase from 39 per cent to 40 per cent the amount of deposits they invest in interest-bearing state bonds.

The bank raised 44 billion drachmas (\$275 million) through recent bond sales to credit institutions, falling 16 billion drachmas short of a targeted 60 billion drachmas (\$375) the statement said.

In addition it reduced the percentage of commercial bank deposits allocated to finance public enterprises from 10.5 per cent to 9.5 per cent starting April 30. The percentage will drop to 9 per cent from May 1, bringing the allocation down to 49 per cent.

Smith plans to retire

NEW YORK, March 23, (AP): The world-wide publisher of Newsweek magazine plans to retire at the end of the year, while a Murdoch magazine executive was named to head Newsweek's US edition.

Howard W. Smith said yesterday that Peter W. Eldridge, an executive with Murdoch magazines, would become publisher of the US edition of Newsweek on April 2.

Eldridge and Peter Luffman, president of Newsweek International, each will report directly to Newsweek president Alan G. Spoun, with no new world-wide publisher to be named.

The newsweekly, which is owned by the Washington Post Co., is in a fierce battle with Time and US News and World Report for advertising and circulation.

Newsweek's circulation was 3.2 million at the end of 1989, which puts it behind Time at 4.3 million and US News and World Report at 2.2 million. Its ad revenues rose five per cent to a record \$253.8 million last year, according to a spokeswoman for the publication.

In a telephone interview, Smith, 55, said he has worked for Newsweek for 25 years and decided last year that "25 years is enough." He said he planned to retire in a ranch he owns in New Mexico, Texas, but will remain a consultant to the magazine.

"Howard Smith is a one-of-a-kind," Spoun said in a statement. "His contributions to Newsweek's success have been both far-ranging and of fundamental importance. We will miss him greatly."

Smith took over as world-wide publisher at Newsweek in September 1988 after running the international division for five years.

By announcing his retirement nine months in advance, Smith will be able to provide some guidance to Eldridge, who has been vice president for group sales at Murdoch magazines, a unit of News Corp. Ltd. of Australia.

Eldridge, 45, said he has no immediate plans to make any changes at Newsweek. "It is one of the best edited and best designed publications around," he said in a telephone interview.

The post of US publisher has been vacant during Smith's tenure as world-wide publisher.

One of the problems Newsweek faces in competing for ad revenue is that time is one of several publications of Time Warner Inc. and Time's ad salesmen are able to offer packages of space in all of them.

Washington Post Co. owns four television stations, several Cable TV systems and the Washington Post newspaper.

Prior to joining News America, he worked at Sport, News America and money magazines.

US, Japan reach supercomputer pact

WASHINGTON, March 23, (Reuters): The United States and Japan reached agreement during late-night negotiations opening Japanese markets to American and other foreign-built supercomputers, a US trade official said today.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the agreement provided that the Japanese government would give fair consideration to American products when making future purchases of supercomputers.

The agreement staves off possible retaliation that was to have taken effect by June 16 if no agreement

was reached.

Among the American companies making the big computers to be covered under an agreement are Cray Research Inc., Alliant Computer Systems Corp and IBM Corp.

The official said that while a basic agreement has been reached, the document had not been signed. However, he said he saw no sticking points.

The last and most difficult item to be worked out was to end the practice of Japanese supercomputer makers putting in unrealistically low bids and the Japanese government accepting them.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION — WINNERS AND LOSERS

by John Garuffi and Benito Rotalla
PART SEVEN: Education in Canada.

It's the age of information in the modern world, whether we like it or not. Education, in all its aspects, has become the be all and end all of successful living. You are a parent about to immigrate to a new land so the education system of your destination will be given top priority. And rightly so.

What do you look for in education? Basically, you will probably want a system that provides your child with the necessary skills — let's avoid the jargon — to make his or her life happy, materially and spiritually. You want the three R's and you want either religious or moral instruction.

The Canadian system of education is, according to all reports, a modern, fair and healthy competitive system. It has to be, in a country as multi-racial as it is.

In Canada, education is a provincial responsibility and each province has developed variations on the education system. Procedures for enrolment, information services, and special services differ from province to province. But there are many things in common.

It's an easy structure to follow. School runs from Kindergarten to grade 6 (elementary school), then from grade 7 to grades 8 or 9 (junior high school) and finally from grades 10 to 11 or in some provinces grade 12 (senior high school).

By law, all children must attend school between the ages of six and 15 or 16, and some provinces offer pre-school programs for four or five year olds.

Your consultant will tell you what to bring with you when you begin enrolment procedures. They are simple but important documents: school records, transcripts and grades. Originals might be demanded instead of copies, so check with your consultant. There are other documents needed for enrolment, and they will ensure that your children are placed in the most appropriate grades.

The standard of education in Canada is as high as in any developed country and sometimes even higher. Remember that Western-style education is not just getting a certain grade in one of the traditional disciplines. Education philosophy in a country like Canada has developed to include the education of the entire person — physical, psychological and mental.

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Founded in 1970 and with Swissair as a major shareholder, Euroactividade is a leading developer of golfing and residential leisure resorts on the Algarve of Portugal. The company has an excellent reputation for quality and excellence of architectural design with each development having superb sporting and recreational facilities. There are a variety of financial packages on offer including outright ownership, co-ownership or deferred payment plans. Prices range from £88,000 for plots and £220,000 for villas.



A superb opportunity to see an extensive and varied range of UK and Portuguese properties ideal for investment purposes.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

Come and see us at the following venue:

KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL HOTEL KUWAIT

Thurs 22, Fri 23, Sat 24 March
From 10.00am - 9.00pm



BUSINESS

Rabat faces calls for change

RABAT, March 23, (Reuters). Morocco, its economy virtually back at square one after five years of austerity, is facing growing pressure for political change.

Opposition groups, emboldened by democratic reforms in Algeria and Tunisia, have become more outspoken about what they see as the centre-right government's failure to make political and economic progress.

"The current economic dead-end reflects at the end of the day the dead-end of democracy in Morocco," the Arabic Al Alam daily, mouthpiece of the old-guard nationalist Istiqlal Party, said in an editorial last week.

"The government persists in excluding all others (the opposition) and pursues one-party politics," said Al Ittihad Al Istiqlali, organ of the socialist union of popular forces.

The government will shortly announce a new package of austerity measures after the economy, the 11th most heavily indebted in the Third World, hit new trouble last year.

Despite high growth and low inflation in 1988, its fragile base was exposed when the country's three main sources of income — sales of phosphates, tourism, and money from workers abroad — all fell off sharply.

For most of the 1980s, Morocco had little trouble presenting itself as the most liberal country in North Africa, but towards the close of the decade political upheaval elsewhere in the Maghreb has made that image difficult to sustain.

With 11 political parties and 12 daily newspapers, the government boasted it was the only pluralist state in the region and one of the few in the Arab world.

"In many ways they were right, Morocco has always had the trappings of a democracy, the institutions and so on, but they function in a very restricted way," one Western political analyst told Reuters.

Liberalisation in Tunisia, following the removal from power of Habib Bourguiba in November 1987, and political freedoms offered in Algeria after youth riots in 1988 changed all that.

Algeria, for years a bastion of austere one-party socialist rule, now has more political parties than Morocco.

Jockeying for position ahead of Algeria's first multi-party elections since independence in 1962, they make daily attacks on the government that make Morocco's official opposition look tame, political analysts say.

Looking around the Maghreb, Moroccan political groups have shown signs of growing impatience at their limited room for manoeuvre.

In February lawyers and three human rights groups said torture and arbitrary arrests were widespread and called for a national human rights charter.

There is little sign, however, of the authorities adopting a more flexible approach.

UK inflation edges down

LONDON, March 23, (Reuters). British inflation, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's public enemy number one, edged down in February to an annual rate of 7.5 per cent but the trend was likely to be short-lived, government figures showed today.

The retail price index, Britain's main measure of inflation, fell from 7.7 per cent in January. But the underlying rate, which excludes home loan repayments, rose to its highest level in seven years.

"The position will worsen noticeably before it improves," Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major said in Tuesday's budget speech.

Thatcher's Conservatives are trailing the opposition Labour Party in opinion polls and lost a previously safe parliamentary seat in a by-election yesterday.

Financial markets have said the budget was not tough enough to tackle inflation and the rate is bound to go up in the next few months as the latest round of home loan increases and budget rises in excise duties make their impact.

Exchange Rates	
Indian rupee	17.290
Sri Lanka rupee	7.450
Pakistan rupee	13.880
Bangladesh taka	8.640
US dollar	29.485
Pound sterling	47.125
UAE dirham	0.8025
Deutsche mark	17.275
Japanese yen	0.01907

SPD plays Kohl of planning secret tax rises

BONN, March 23, (Reuters). West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) stepped up their campaign against Chancellor Helmut Kohl's handling of German unification today, accusing him of planning secret tax rises to pay for it.

SPD tax experts Ingrid Matthaeus-Maier said Kohl's centre-right coalition planned to boost government revenues through a rise in value added tax but would wait until after parliamentary elections in December so as not to lose votes.

"Every day it becomes clearer that the government is preparing to deceive the voters," she said in a statement.

The West German SPD, alarmed by the unexpected defeat of its East German sister party in last Sunday's East German elections, has seized on the likely cost of Kohl's German unity plans to ordinary taxpayers as a key issue on which to attack him.

Matthaeus-Maier said Kohl would raise value added tax on goods and services, to 16 per cent from 14 per cent.

The government, which insists wealthy West Germany can easily absorb the cost of currency union and eventual political unification with East Germany, denied that any tax increases were planned.

"There are no plans to raise taxes, either this year or next year," Finance Ministry spokesman Karlheinz von den Driesch told a news conference.

Bonn plans to introduce the Deutschmark and extend its welfare system to East Germany, probably this summer, as a prelude to full political unification.

West Germany has also promised to swap East Germans' savings at a one-to-one exchange rate, although one DM mark is unofficially worth five East marks.

The government says it is not possible to estimate reliably how much these measures will cost West German taxpayers.

But Elmar Pieroth, a West German politician likely to become East Germany's next economics minister, puts the initial annual cost to West Germany of unification at 50 billion marks (\$30 billion).

The SPD challenged Kohl on Thursday to disclose what currency union would cost.

Today, economics spokesman Wolfgang Roth accused Kohl of pushing the East German economy into crisis by failing to prepare for the wave of unemployment likely to result when East German firms start facing free-market competition.

"If the government does not develop a comprehensive concept quickly, East Germany would become the poor-house of Central Europe," Roth said.

Otto Lambsdorff, leader of the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) who are the junior partner in Kohl's coalition, said on Thursday the government would probably introduce a second supplementary 1990 budget to help finance economic and monetary union.

"This will certainly not be financed by tax increases," Lambsdorff said.

Last month's cabinet approved a supplementary 1990 budget of 6.9 billion marks (\$4 billion) in order to provide financial aid for East Germany.

Outlook for '90 generally optimistic

World trade tops \$3,100b: study

GENEVA, March 23, (Reuters). Global trade was worth a record \$3,100 billion last year, but it grew less rapidly than in 1985 and seems set to slow further in 1990, the world trade forum GATT said in a preliminary estimate yesterday.

The United States regained its place as the world's leading exporter after three years in second place behind West Germany. Japan retained third position.

Trade volume in 1989 rose by an estimated seven per cent compared with 8.5 per cent in 1988, the report said.

Although this was enough to push the total above \$3,000 billion for the first time, the rise in value at 7.5 per cent was almost half the rise of 14 per cent in 1988, it said.

GATT added that the outlook for 1990 was generally optimistic with no world recession in sight.

But economic growth was expected to slow in advanced nations to just under three per cent, and the rise in trade volume could ease to between five to six per cent. Even that rate would

equal or exceed trade performance in seven of the past 10 years.

The forecasts were contained in a report by the secretariat of the 96-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) based on data available in late February. The assessment is routinely updated later when fuller figures become available.

Discussing the sharp slowdown of growth in value in 1989, the report said: "Higher petroleum prices and moderate inflation in the prices of most traded goods were offset by the deflationary valuation effect of the dollar's appreciation against a number of currencies."

The report said no estimate was yet available of the value of world trade in commercial services such as shipping, passenger and port services, travel and other private services, but it seemed likely to be above 1988's \$600 billion.

Merchandise trade in 1989 again expanded significantly faster than world output, and this trend would continue in 1990.

The report noted the value of

world trade was below \$2,000 billion as recently as 1983, and the seven per cent volume increase in 1989 was the third largest during the 1980s.

Industrialised countries made the strongest contributions, with manufactured goods accounting for 80 per cent of the total increase in merchandise trade volume.

Exports by the United States and the 12-nation European Economic Community grew faster than the world average, but Japan's rate fell below for the fourth successive year.

Among the world's 25 leading exporters, China, Mexico and Saudi Arabia all moved up two places to 14th, 20th and 24th respectively. In the import ratings South Korea climbed two spots to 13th position, and Finland jumped three to 25th.

The GATT report said that for the first time since 1985 the volume of developing countries exports failed to better the world average, although they were up in value by an estimated 12 per cent, due mainly to higher oil prices.

The setback in volume was due to export growth slowing down in a number of dynamic traders in Asia and Latin America.

It was a dull year for the Soviet Union and its East European partners as their trade either declined or expanded at rates below the world average, in some instances for the third rates below the world average, in some instances for the third successive year, the report said.

"The needed investments in infrastructure and plant and equipment will require increased imports of capital equipment and business services. More generally, both the level and pattern of world trade will be affected as their trade with countries outside the CMEA (Comecon communist trade grouping) increases in importance."

The report said the GATT secretariat's generally optimistic outlook was qualified by concern that relatively little progress had been made in resolving debt problems of least developed countries, and persistent inflation in many parts of the world.



Information service

Picture shows from left Patrick Smith, publisher; James O'Sullivan, managing director; and Michael Forster, sales director.

RODAN Limited the UK based publishers of the British Export Directory are currently in Kuwait promoting their free procurement and information service.

Formed three years ago in Bristol by a team of expatriates, Rodan's staff have over 50 years experience of working and living in the Middle East. It was the lack of readily available information in the marketplace covering British goods and services that led to the launch of the first directory at the beginning of 1989.

"We soon began to receive a steadily growing stream of enquiries from companies requiring further information or assistance in sourcing exporters from the UK," explains Patrick Smith one of Rodan's directors. "So the decision was taken to offer a free information service to

users of our directory. If they are having problems finding a particular product or service all they have to do is fax us their requirements and we'll put them in touch with the right people.

The second edition of the directory for 1990 contains information on over 10,000 British exporters listed under more than 2,000 different business classifications. Editorial information on how to use the directory and the business classification headings is in six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and of course Arabic.

There are two interesting and useful features included in the publication. One is a full listing of all London telephone numbers due to change on the May 8, 1990 and the new codes. The

other is a Brand Name Index, linked to companies in the directory.

Since their arrival in Kuwait the Rodan team have received requests for information on such diverse items as colour printing presses, water heaters, up-and-over garage doors, carbon rods, safety equipment, children's furniture, label making equipment, electrical and plumbing equipment. "We've even had one request for a booking on the first shuttle to the moon," Smith admits that "we can handle the difficult enquiries right away but the impossible takes just a little longer."

The Rodan team will be staying at the Kuwait Plaza until the end of the month when they leave for the Emirates on the next leg of their Gulf tour.



Peter Rollings (right) pictured with Tim Rollings (second left) at the property exhibition.

Prices likely to go up

AFTER a two-year downward trend, the London property market seems to be picking up and prices are expected to go up, according to Peter J.L. Rollings, marketing manager of Foxtons, London.

Rollings, who is in Kuwait for Foxton's Property Exhibition, said the property market has picked up since Christmas last year and the value of real estate is going up.

Rolling said this is the right time to invest in property as the long-term returns would be much higher, particularly after 1992 when real estate dealers

expect an upturn in the market and mortgage rates, which had shot up, are expected to fall.

Foxtons help investors from locating the ideal property to letting it and managing tax affairs. A foreign national is liable to about 25 per cent taxation on income derived from his property. Rollings said they can advise investors on how to "minimise taxation" or balance it out.

The group mainly aims at individual investors. At their exhibition at the Kuwait International Hotel, they are selling property mainly in the UK and

Portugal.

In the UK, they represent real estate developed by Charles Church Developments and in Portugal, Euroactividade. English property is valued between £92,000 and above with a maximum of £300,000. In Portugal, prices vary between £80,000 and £280,000.

Today is the last day of the exhibition, which will be open from 10 am to 9 pm. Foxton representatives would be available to discuss queries of serious buyers in the hotel's executive centre on Sunday and Monday.

How to manage your business

Seminar on JIT

"THE intelligent way of managing your business". This was how Nikhil K. Sait described the latest Just-In-Time (JIT) Management System which he so avidly tries to propagate. Sait is the managing director of Prime Movers Projects and Consultants Ltd., Bangalore, India and belongs to the current genre of change agents who advocate the JIT management techniques for total profitability. He is currently on a visit to Kuwait on the invitation of some businessmen to conduct a seminar on JIT.

He said his company is having implementation contracts with more than a dozen companies in India and has teamed up with another company to meet the demand of more and more companies opting for JIT techniques.

JIT has become the business world's latest technique implementing JIT world over (including the Japanese) are reporting impressive results in production and marketing, Sait said.

The main objective of implementing JIT is to maximise profit within an existing setup without further investments.

JIT has about 40 application areas with structured techniques and scientific approaches including purchasing, marketing, project management, inventory control, quality control, finance, computerisation etc.

In a nutshell he said: "It is simply possible to save a minimum of 5 per cent in purchase by implementing JIT-purchasing. One can imagine the multiplier effect this alone can bring about in business."

On asked about his visit to



Nikhil K Sait

Kuwait, he clarified that the purpose of organising a workshop is to put across the ideas and principles behind JIT concepts to top executives and businessmen and earn contracts for implementation. He stressed the need for businessmen and industrialists to switch to the JIT techniques "as it is the one step that will take the business several steps ahead of competition."

He laid heavy emphasis that his company does not claim to be teachers. "We are just putting forth a collection of relevant, logical and new ideas so that industry and business can benefit and maximise their profits. The technique of JIT implementation will be in consultation with the company's existing management so as to ensure a fit with your own culture and see that no conflicts arise. "The idea is to work through your system with the co-operation of management and employees to make JIT happen."

"In our business, the most important thing is your bottom-line," Sait said.

Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs)			
March 23, '90	Pr. Close	Open	Close
ACC	376.50	378.50	389
Alem Chem	—	—	—
Alw Nis	—	—	—
Ari Fab	—	—	—
Asbok Ley	76	74	76
Asia Paint	231.25	231.25	233
Atlas Cop	37	36	37
Auto Corp	53.75	52.50	55
Nat Index	396.89	404.34	395
Bajaj Auto	392.50	395	395
Ber Rayon	722.50	722.50	745
Blow Plast	—	—	—
Bom Dye	187	187.50	190
BK Bond	112.50	110	105
Bury Wd	77.50	80	85
Canshare	—	—	—
Can Euka	31.50	3200	3200
Can Spg	2880	2900	2990
Colgate	221.25	223.75	227.50
Cromi Gr	935	—	—
DCM	15	15	16
Deep Fert	32	32	32
Durgap	55	55	56
ET Hotels	63	61	63
Escorts	86	86	87
BSE Index	721.69	739.22	739.22
Eskayel	136.25	138.75	142.50
Essar Spg	35.25	34.25	35
Food Spl	127	127.50	130
Foodies	48.50	47.50	48
Gur Poly	36.50	36	35.50
Gindia	98.50	99	101
GNFC	43.50	44	44.25
Grasim	118.50	121	122
GE Ship	48.50	48.50	49.50
GSFC	183	185	186.25
Guj Altd	83	82	84
Guj Heavy	16.50	—	—
Hero Honda	13	15	16
Hind Ciba	1220	1230	1270
Hind Lever	116	116.50	118
Hind Coca	160	160	166.25
Hind Motor	22.75	23.50	25
Hindalco	251.25	255	260
Hochst	1570	1590	1620
Jangrasi	235	230	235
ITC	64	64	63
Ind Org	54	54	55.50
Ind Rayon	92	95	100
Indal	182.50	183.75	190.25
JK Spg	54	52	54.50
Kin Engg	135	142.50	138.75
Kir Camm	75.50	76	77
KSB Pumps	215	210	215
L & T	63	63	63.50
Lipton	95	94	96
Mas Russi	110	105	107.50
Mas Steel	107.50	107.50	107.50
Mitsubishi	116	116	117
Mitsubishi H I	125	125	125
Mitsui R E	1920	1920	1920
Mizuno Corp	1670	1670	1670
Mochida Pa	4000	4000	4000
Mori Saito Co	3600	3600	3600
Mas Share	18.25	18.25	18.35
Mico	860	860	900
Milkfood	230	215	225

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

Tokyo shares

Nikkei stock average: 30372.16			
(-528.82)			
Volume: 600 mil shs			
Yen exchange rate: 155.20			
Names of stocks	Cl	Co	
Advant Corp	4660	-20	
Ajinomoto	2000	+80	
Alps Electric	1950	+60	
Amada	1430	+30	
Asahi Chem Ind	851	+11	
Asahi Glass	1820	+30	
C. Itoh Co	794	+14	
Canon Inc	1430	+50	
Casio Comp	1430	+150	
Dai Nippon Printing	1770	+120	
Daiichi Seiyaku	2540	+90	
Dainippon Pa	2530	+40	
Daishinku Corp	1600	-40	
Eiai	1690	+60	
Fanuc Ltd	7170	+50	
Fuji Photo	3630	+100	
Fujitsu Ltd	1330	+30	
Hitachi Credit	1420	+30	
Hitachi Koki	1460	+70	
Hitachi Metal	1330	+10	
Honda Motor	1630	+30	
Ito Yokado Co	3660	+220	
Kajima Corp	1730	+20	
Kobe H I	730	-5	
Kobe Cast Iron	1080	-70	
Kokusai Elec	5340	+360	
Komatsu Ltd	935	-19	
Kyocera Corp	7190	+600	
Marex	2570	+120	
Matsushita Ind	3810	+180	
Mai Electric	2050	+180	
Mazda M C	710	-21	
Mitsubishi Corp	1220	+30	
Mitsubishi Estate	1720	+40	
Mitsubishi H I	125	-5	
Mitsui R E	1920	+30	
Mizuno Corp	1670	+50	
Mochida Pa	4000	+310	
Nippon Steel Corp	3600	+50	
NEC Corp	1910	+150	
Nikon Corp	1260	+130	
Nippon Shin Co	1180	+70	
Nippon Steel Corp	355	+10	
Nippondenso	2080	+80	
Nitako Corp	1480	+50	
Nomura Sec	2160	+20	
Okuma Mach	1530	+40	
Oriental K Co	1700	+20	
Orix Corp	4840	0	
Pioneer Elec Co	6600	+260	
Sanyo Elec Co	780	+22	
Secom Co. Ltd	5700	0	

Provided by Nomura Investment Banking (Midwest), Bahrain

The Banktiji Offshore Fund Limited

BID KD	11.100
OFFER* KD	11.332
*Includes 2% front end fee	
Continuous growth...	
Commercial Bank	

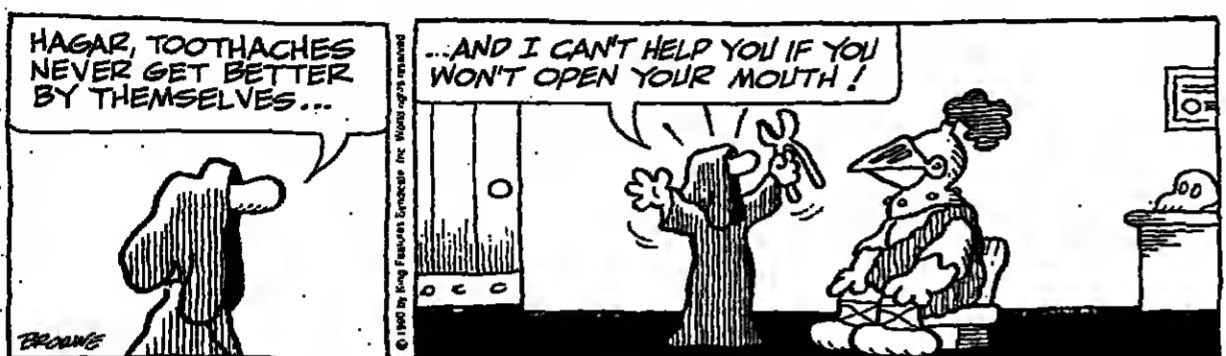
BLONDIE

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By Dik Browne



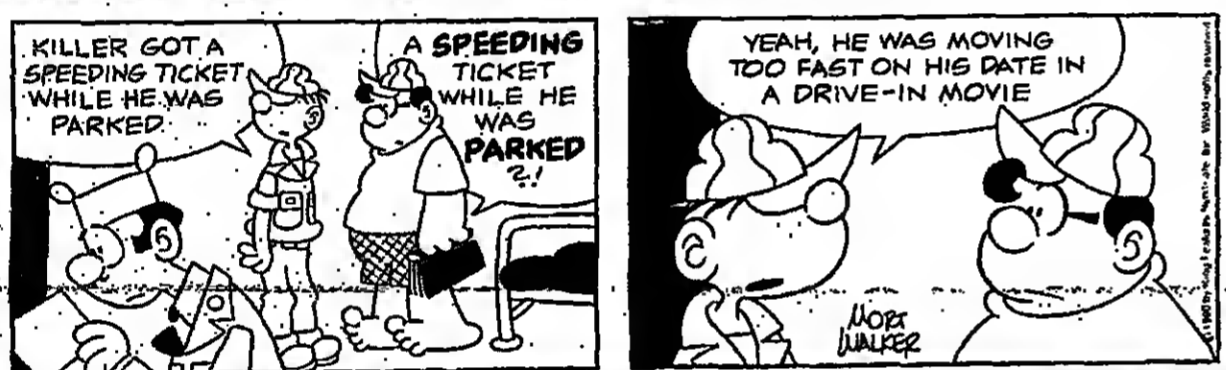
AGATHA CRUMM

By Bill Hoest



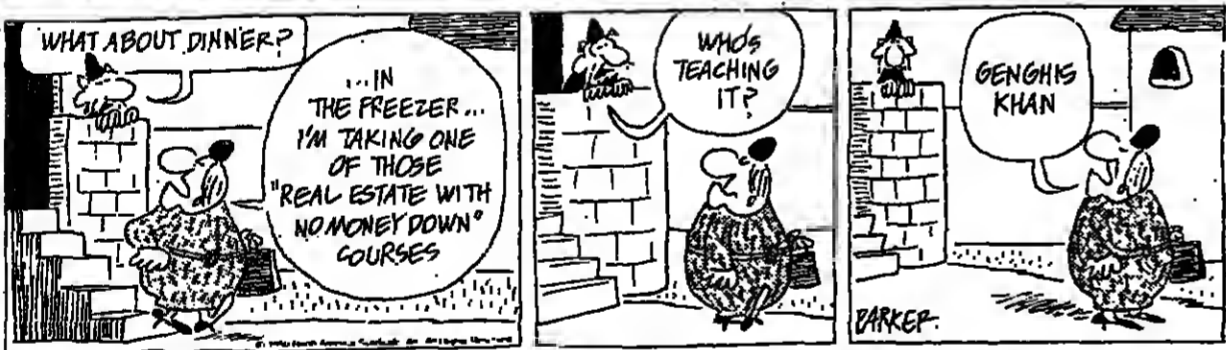
BEETLEBAILEY

By Mark Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Mark Walker



ANDY CAPP



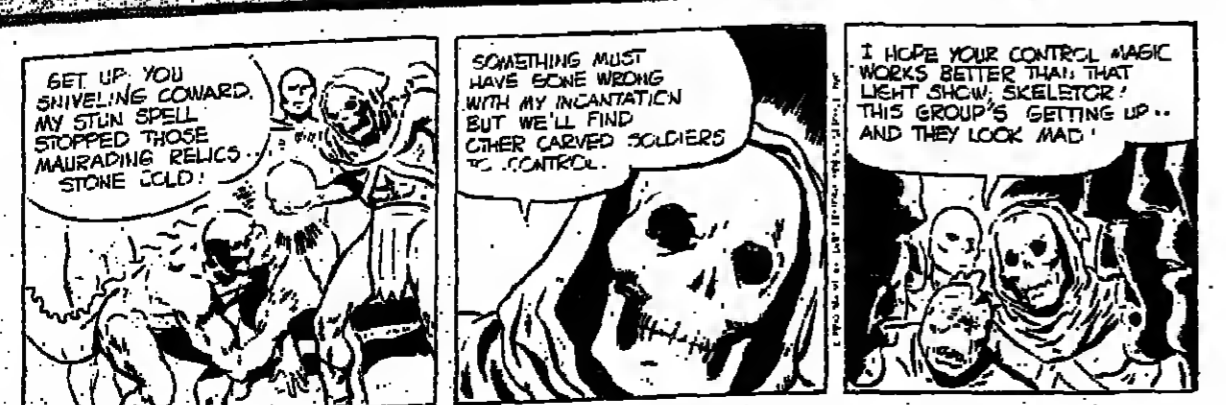
B.C.

By Johnny Hart

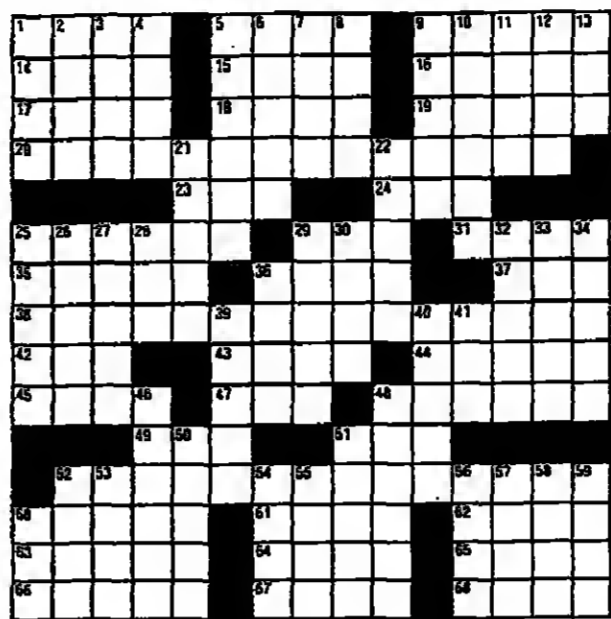


HE MAN

By G. Fortson & Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Four posters
 - Alight
 - Aunt, in Dortmund
 - Lamb's pen name
 - State
 - Worship
 - Thanks —!
 - Enameled metalware
 - Well painting
 - Easy
 - Was in the van
 - Meal lead-in
 - Come forth
 - Kindred
 - Dreins
 - Served in a mess
 - Herbor
 - Wire measure
 - Easy
 - Left after taxes
 - Meadows
 - Seeped
 - Mine finds
 - Ailing
 - Church officials
 - Ditty syllable
 - Pierre's pal
 - Easy
 - Man from Mars
 - Unusual
 - Cold-cuts shop
 - Small silver fish
 - Hebrew dry measure
 - Prelse
 - Underworld
 - Bernstein score
 - River to the North Sea
- DOWN**
- Be all smiles
 - Fashion
 - magazine
 - Creator of the New Look
 - Cloy
 - Shampoo product
 - Give a wide berth
 - Center of stage and TV
 - A Scott
 - W Florida city
 - Grown-ups
 - "A Doll's House" heroine
 - Salver
 - Silthary one
 - Jewelry fastener
 - voice
 - Organic acid
 - Pumpkin eater of rhyme
 - Like some jewelry
 - Guido's high note
 - Milk train
 - Mekas angry
 - Asbound
 - Tightwad
 - Coasters
 - Orange or grapefruit
 - Homer epic
 - Type of acid
 - Mesachusetts cape
 - Addison's partner
 - Islamic princes
 - Carries on
 - After, in Avignon
 - Mater
 - Schubert song
 - School dance
 - Camera
 - Run in neutral
 - Adress Patricia
 - Baseball bat
 - Partner of seek
 - Wood for a
 - 58 Down

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SIAMAR RDAN CRAB
EVITA ELBE AONE
WDRIST SLAW NAGS
SWEETPEAS ADMIT
AREA HOLYSEE
PGA ARRS ATT
ALLSPICE FOUGHT
TUTU HET FLUE
STAGED PRESTIGE
ADD SILL BEN
REPRINT ALAI
EVICT HONEYDEWS
PAPA BORG EERIE
EDEN ORAL RAISE
LEISE ANNE SLEEK

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
LOOK FOR A MIRACLE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 7 5 3
♥ A K Q 6 2
♦ Q 3
♣ Q 6

WEST
♠ Q J 10
♥ J 9 4
♦ K J 8 4
♣ K 10 7

EAST
♠ 8
♥ 10 8 7 3
♦ 10 9 6
♣ J 9 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 6 4 2
♥ 5
♦ A 7 5 2
♣ A 8 3

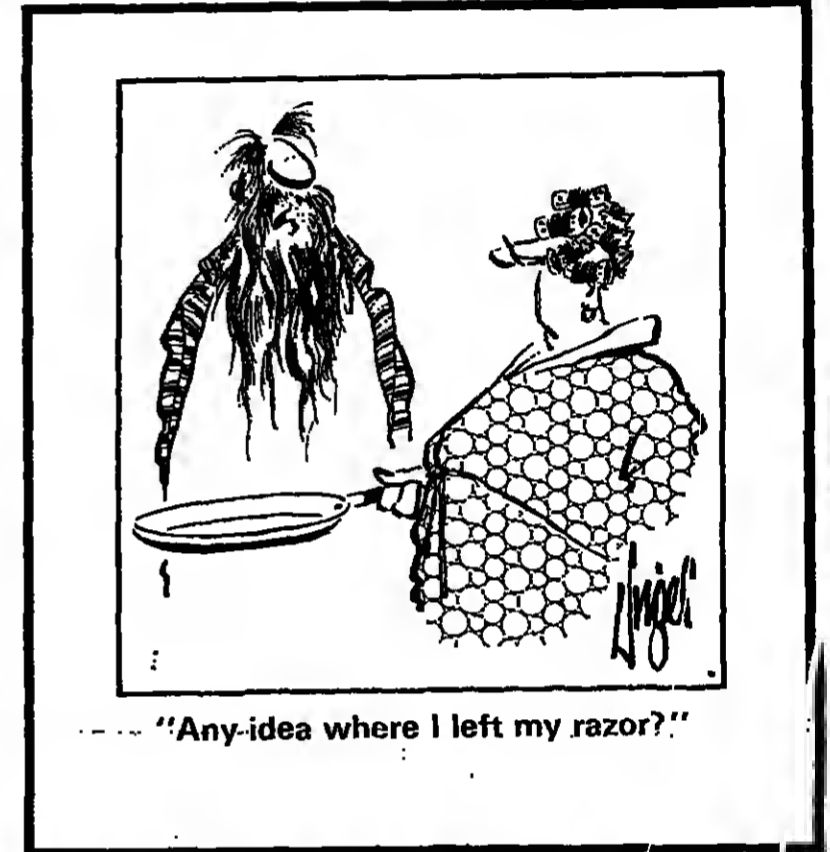
The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
6 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠

spade slam had more to gain than to lose.

West's trump lead made it look like the best chance for the contract—a 2-2 spade break—would gang agley, and so it proved when East discarded a club on the second round of trumps. After considerable thought, declarer found a combination of cards that would allow the slam to sail safely into port. It would not take much—West had to hold exactly three hearts and both minor-suit kings!

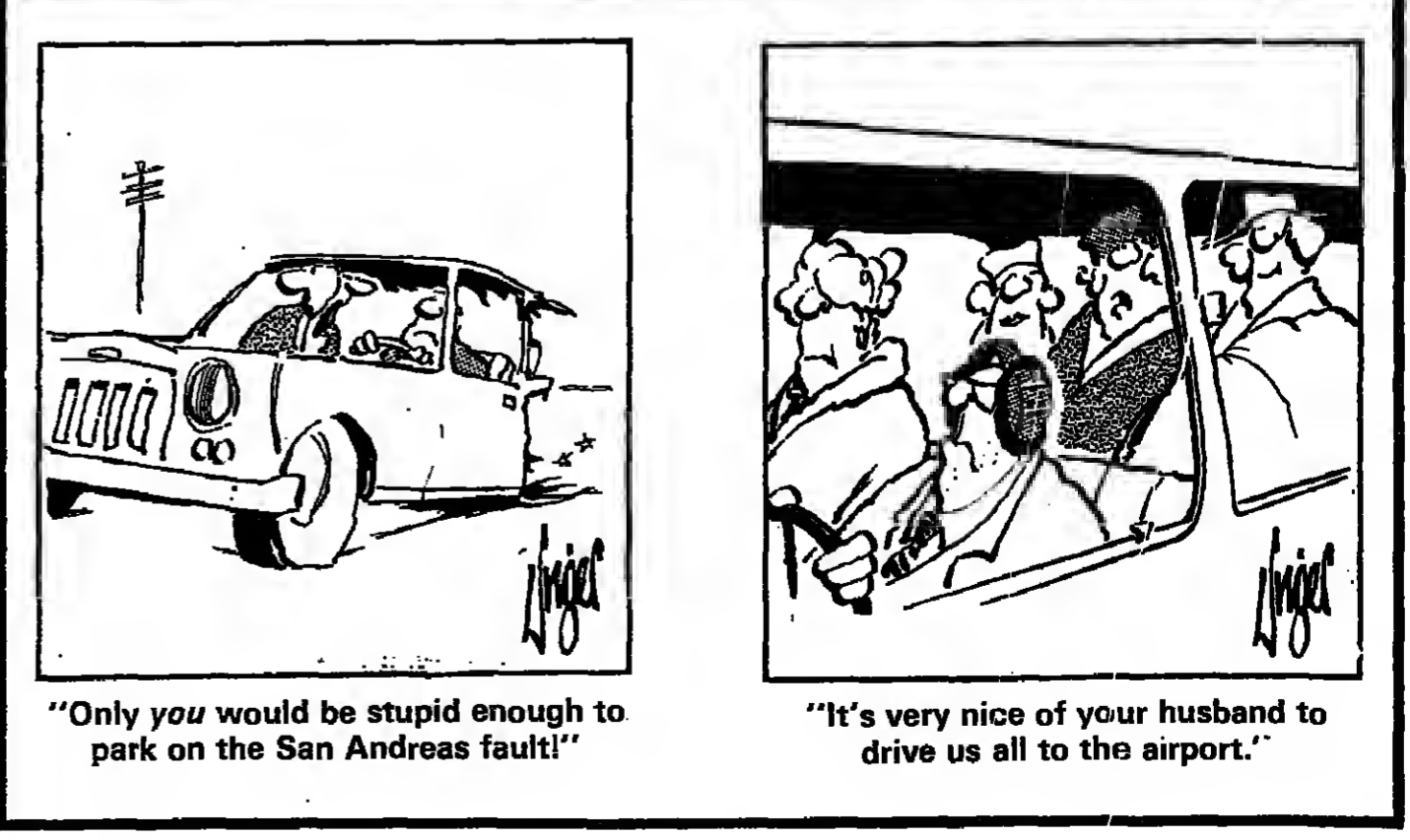
Declarer cashed the ace and king of hearts, stuffing a diamond from hand, then ruffed a heart. Next, he threw West in with a trump.

The first lucky break occurred when West did not turn up with the outstanding heart as a safe exit. When West exited with a diamond (a club would have been no better), declarer played the queen from dummy and muttered a silent prayer. All was well. The queen of diamonds held, providing declarer with the entry to cash the table's two good hearts for two club discards from hand. All that remained was to cash the ace of diamonds and ruff the diamond loser in dummy and 12 tricks were in the bag.



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries March 21 - April 20</p> <p>You have the wind in your sails but must make sure you are heading the right way. Do not leave your partner in doubt about your love. Distinguish between attentiveness and fussiness. Be aware.</p>	<p>Cancer June 21 - July 20</p> <p>You are liable to take offence rather easily, try not to. You should think a little longer before committing yourself to a heavy outlay. You should not trust too much to luck. Be respectful but not subservient.</p>	<p>Libra Sept 23 - Oct 23</p> <p>You will need all the energy you can summon and should make sure you do not waste any time. Refrain from eating too many sweet things. You should by all means be curious, but avoid being a busybody. Be tactful.</p>	<p>Capricorn Dec 21 - Jan 19</p> <p>You are liable to become rather discouraged and should take every opportunity to reassure yourself. Nothing is quite as it seems so look a little more beneath the surface. Take good care of your health. Be less obstinate.</p>
<p>Taurus April 21 - May 20</p> <p>Do not try to run before you can walk. In particular make sure you read the instructions for a new device carefully. Make sure you do not say one thing and then do quite another. Be helpful.</p>	<p>Leo July 21 - Aug 21</p> <p>You should keep your wits about you, someone is out to deceive you. Try to keep things simple and avoid ambiguity. Take more interest in what interests your partner and your children. Be tolerant.</p>	<p>Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 23</p> <p>You will have to be careful if you want to avoid a serious financial problem. You should trust more to reason than to intuition. Do not allow yourself to lose sight of your objectives and aims. Be reasonable.</p>	<p>Aquarius Jan 20 - Feb 19</p> <p>You are rather liable to become complacent and should do all you can to resist the trend. A good and timely idea will help you to deal with a current problem. Do not spend too much time watching television, read too. Be cooperative.</p>
<p>Gemini May 21 - June 20</p> <p>You will need to be a little more patient, but there will be a due reward. If you are too much of a hurry you could do well miss important details. You should beware of making a promise you will find it hard to keep. Be polite.</p>	<p>Virgo Aug 23 - Sept 23</p> <p>Something you do not like doing should be got out of the way. You are liable to be a little short-tempered and should make an effort to control yourself. Listen attentively to what others are saying. Be selective without being fussy.</p>	<p>Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 23</p> <p>Your emotions are liable to run away with you and you should seek to curb them. Also try to avoid exaggerations and do not go to extremes. You will achieve more by persuasion than you could by force. Be firm.</p>	<p>Pisces Feb 20 - March 20</p> <p>Now is a good time for a change you have been thinking about. Your lucky numbers are 15 and 23. Something that has been puzzling you will now become clear. Make sure you do not tread on anyone's toes and make a few concessions. Be objective.</p>



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BENED Al Qar, opp. ex. Hale House. Spacious 2-bedroom flat, dining room, hall with tele. and household furniture for sale. Rent KD200. Tel. 2515046, after 2 pm.

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Available

SALMIYA, House No. 6, Block No. 12, St. No. 1, Salmiya Al Mubarak St. in front of petrol station. Large rooms in a flat for a family, working girls or bachelor to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 15, 19, 24, 27, 45. Rent KD80.

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QADISIYA, Area 4, Street 45, House 6. Three rooms with water, electricity and tele. facilities for families. Tel. Mrs. Zahida, 2520249, after 5 pm.

(AT6-51993-3)

SALMIYA, Plot 11, Building 6, Flat 12, Mousa Al Abad Al Rezak street. Accommodation for a family or 2 bachelors. Tel. Sebastian, 5610362, 4-6.30 pm.

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SALMIYA, behind Amman Street, opp. Bahr Video, Building 7, 3rd Floor. Sharing accommodation with tele. facilities for 2 bachelors or working ladies. Rent KD35 each. Bus routes 19, 30, 24. Tel. 5615291.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Lampkin triumphs

GATESHEAD, England, March 23. (Reuters) Jeff Lampkin of the United States knocked out defending champion Glean McCrory of Britain in the third round of their 12-round International Boxing Federation (IBF) world cruiserweight title fight last night.

E. German athlete

EAST BERLIN, March 23. (Reuters) Multi-event East German athlete Heike Drechsler, who won silver in the long jump and two spinning hronzes at the Seoul Olympics, plans a comeback after taking time off to have a baby and further her teaching studies.

NBA games

NEW YORK, March 23. (Reuters) Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday:

Dallas	116	Orlando	106
Houston	115	Detroit	110
San Antonio	107	Portland	106
Seattle	125	Denver	118

Wright injured

LONDON, March 23. (Reuters) Crystal Palace striker Ian Wright has broken his leg just 10 days after returning to action following a cracked shin bone and will miss his side's FA Cup semifinal against Liverpool on April 8.

Watford manager

LONDON, March 23. (Reuters) Watford's Steve Harrison became the 26th English Soccer League manager to lose his job this season when he parted company with the Second Division club, along with coach Tom Wally, by mutual consent on Tuesday.

Cup competition

ROME, March 23. (Reuters) Italian World Cup supremo Lucio di Montezemolo said on Wednesday he was worried that preparations for the soccer spectacular might not be ready for the June start and that strikes could disrupt the competition.

Maradona doubtful

NAPLES, Italy, March 23. (Reuters) Diego Maradona is doubtful for Argentina's World Cup soccer warm-up match against Scotland next week because of an advertising commitment in Japan.

Tickets overpriced

BONN, March 23. (Reuters) West Germany's soccer chief has criticised the Italian World Cup organisers for selling what he called "grossly overpriced" tickets to the fans in a complicated manner.

Ablanedo recalled

MADRID, March 23. (Reuters) Dropped Gijon goalkeeper Juan Ablanedo was recalled to an otherwise unchanged Spanish national soccer squad yesterday for a World Cup warm-up match against fellow-finalists Austria in Malaga on Wednesday.

Transfer deal

COLOGNE, West Germany, March 23. (Reuters) West German soccer international Thomas Haessler has been given the go-ahead by his club Cologne to leave for the Italian First Division in what is expected to be the Bundesliga's biggest transfer deal.

Wouters banned

AMSTERDAM, March 23. (Reuters) Dutch international Jean Wouters received a six-match club ban yesterday and was barred from captaining First Division Ajax Amsterdam until January 1991 after he elbowed a League opponent in the face.

Fight cancelled

LOS ANGELES, March 23. (Reuters) The World Boxing Council ban on heavyweight title fight for Monday between champion Raul Perez and fellow-Mexican Lupe Rubio has been cancelled after the challenger failed a medical test, the organisers said on Wednesday.

Doping panel

EAST BERLIN, March 23. (Reuters) East Germany's DTSB sports federation, rocked by growing allegations that its top athletes were systematically given performance-enhancing drugs, wants the country's new government to set up an independent doping panel.

Rugby whitewash

DUBLIN, March 23. (Reuters) Welsh rugby union captain Robert Jones, resolute in the face of potential disaster, insists his side can avoid a Five Nations whitewash against Ireland tomorrow. No Welsh side has ever lost all four championship matches and a defeat by the Irish would also mean all-time low of five successive defeats.

Orlando ahead

ORLANDO, Fla., March 23. (Reuters) Tom Byrum shot a sensational eight-under-par 64 yesterday to take a comfortable three-stroke lead after the first round of the \$900,000 Orlando Invitational golf tournament.

Two-way tie

PHOENIX, Ariz., March 23. (Reuters) Cindy Figg-Currier and Vicki Ferguson shared the first round lead at the \$500,000 Turquoise Classic golf tournament after posting five-under-par 68s yesterday.

Volvo Open

FLORENCE, Italy, March 23. (Reuters) First year British professional Russel Claydon ended two strokes clear of the field after a record-breaking 63 in yesterday's first round of the Volvo Open golf tournament.

Cup sponsor

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., March 23. (Reuters) A Ryder Cup-style contest between United States and Europe may make its debut this year after a sponsor was found to fund the event, the Ladies Professional Golf Association said yesterday. "We have a tentative agreement with Karsten Manufacturing as the underwriters of the first ever Ryder Cup event for the LPGA," the organisation said in a brief statement.

Bayern eliminate PSV

Milan reach semifinals

LONDON, March 23. (Reuters) Marco van Basten broke an extra-time deadlock to usher AC Milan into the semifinals of the European Cup after the holders had left it desperately late against Belgian champions Mechelen in Milan on Wednesday.

Van Basten, European Footballer of the year, swung the quarterfinal tie Milan's way with a goal just before the midway break in extra-time after 180 minutes of regulation time in the two legs had failed to produce a goal.

Marco Simone made it 2-0 in the 116th minute to see the world club champions through to the last four, where they joined Benfica, Bayern Munich and Marseille.



Juventus' Roberto Gallia (left obstructs) Hamburg's Jan Furtok. (Reuters wirephoto)



Enzo Scillo (left) of Auxerre and Fiorentina's Stephano Pili struggle for control of the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

Two players were sent off in the San Siro Stadium, Mechelen defender Leo Clusters receiving his marching orders in the 90th minute for the last of several fouls on Milan winger Roberto Donadoni, who in turn was shown the red card for punching stopper Geert Deferm in retaliation for a foul.

PSV Eindhoven, European Cup champions in 1988, succumbed in the quarterfinals for the second year in a row, beaten this time by West German champions Bayern Munich 1-0 on Dutch turf and 3-1 on aggregate after falling last season to Real

Madrid. Benfica were first through to the semifinals, scoring three times in the second half on their visit to the Ukraine to beat Dnepropetrovsk 3-0 on the day and 4-0 on aggregate.

Marseille, the only member of the quartet never to have won Europe's premier club trophy, sounded the most emphatic challenge when they overwhelmed CFKA Sofia 3-1 for a 4-1 aggregate victory.

England's Chris Waddle opened Marseille's tally in the 26th minute and ace marksman Jean-Pierre Papin added the second two minutes later as the multi-million-franc assembly of cosmopolitan stars turned on the style.

It was Papin's 100th goal for the club and maintained a prodigious strike rate, running to 34 goals this season in which the little raider found the net in each of his first four European games this season.

Frank Sauze made it 3-0 midway through the second half but Marseille's evening was marred when goalkeeper Gaetan Huard broke his leg as he collided with defender Eric Mura diving in a vain effort to deny Marin Urukov a consolation goal for the Bulgarians seven minutes from time.

Bayern, kings of Europe three times in a row from 1974 to 1976, capably defended the 2-1 advantage they brought from the first leg in Munich and capped the performance with a goal from veteran captain Klaus Augenthaler in the final minute.

Augenthaler's shot from 25 metres was deflected into the net by PSV's Belgian captain Eric Gerets, who squandered a golden opportunity of swinging the tie Eindhoven's way when he received a quick free-kick from Gerald Vanenburg only to blast his shot into the side-netting.

Aldesvaldo Lima struck twice in five minutes to put Portuguese champions Benfica 2-0 ahead in the second leg in Dnepropetrovsk on the hour and 3-0 in front overall. Ricardo supplied the final thrust four minutes from the end.

Dnep began confidently and nearly squared the tie when Andrei Yudin hit the crossbar in the 32nd minute, but Benfica took charge in the second half.

Lima scored from a free-kick just inside the penalty area after a foul on Swedish striker Mats Magnusson, scorer of the lone

first-leg goal, opening up dreams of new European Cup glory for the club which won the trophy way back in 1961 and 1962.

In the Cup Winners Cup, Dynamo Bucharest followed up its 2-1 first-leg success with a 2-0 road victory over Partisan Belgrade.

The game was played in Titograd several hundred miles from Belgrade because of fan security problems. Without the familiarity of their own base, the hosts were vulnerable and Ioan Lupescu (52 minutes) and Florin Raduciu (64) took advantage.

Anderlecht, one of Europe's most experienced teams, as expected ousted Admira Wacker of Austria, which never looked like wiping out a 0-2 first-leg deficit in Belgium. Luc Nilis scored for Anderlecht after 59 minutes and Gerhard Rodax tied it with 10 minutes remaining for 1-1, the final score.

Juventus of Turin and West Germany's Werder Bremen were expected to cruise into the last four of the UEFA cup following their first-leg away victories.

They made it, but received a few shocks on the way.

Bremen, which thrashed FC Liege 4-1 two weeks ago, was upset 2-0 in the return but just advanced on a 4-3 aggregate. Jean-Francois de Sart scored after 24 minutes and Cvijan Milosevic added another with nine minutes left.

Juventus, 2-0 winners at Hamburg in the first leg, was beaten by the Germans 2-1 Wednesday but still qualified with its 3-2 aggregate score.

Fiorentina became the third Italian team to reach a semifinal when it edged Auxerre 1-0, courtesy of Marco Nappi's 79th-minute goal. Fiorentina won the first game in Italy by the same score.

Goals by Brazilian Cerezo and Attilio Lombardo thrust Sampdoria into the semifinals of the Cup Winners' Cup yesterday when they beat Grasshopper Zurich 2-1 for a 4-1 aggregate win.

Italy's Sampdoria, beaten finalists in last season's competition, extended their 2-0 lead from the quarterfinal first-leg two minutes before halftime when Cerezo scored with a brilliant header from a Roberto Mancini free kick.

Second half substitute Thomas Wyss equalised for Grasshopper in the 67th minute with a low drive fired on the turn which took goalkeeper Gianluca Pagliuca completely by surprise.

Inquiry dropped

GLASGOW, March 23. (Reuters) Glasgow Rangers manager Graeme Souness and Hearts captain Dave McPherson are not to be punished after an alleged clash in the players' tunnel following a game between the two Scottish Premier Division clubs in December.

A Scottish Football Association (SFA) spokesman said on Wednesday that information requested from both men had not been forthcoming.

The investigation has been dropped due to insufficient evidence, although the incident was said by police at the time to have taken place in full view of the crowd.

The disciplinary committee said on Wednesday it had decided, only with "the greatest reluctance," simply to note the matter.

The SFA is still inquiring into a second incident involving Souness during another Hearts game on February 17.



Grasshopper Zurich's Urs Meier and a Sampdoria player (right) light for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)



Liege players try to keep the ball away from Werder Bremen's Frank Neubarth (left). (Reuters wirephoto)

Lazaroni names team

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 23. (Reuters) Brazil coach Sebastiao Lazaroni named a virtually full-strength squad of 18 for the World Cup warm-up against England on March 28.

Only PSV Eindhoven striker Romario was missing. He broke his leg early in March and could be out for 12 weeks.

Full-back Branco, a previous doubt because it was not sure whether his FC Porto club would release him, was included along with Mozer, whose presence had been uncertain because of injury.

Lazaroni said victory against England at Wembley was not a priority. "This match is training for us, a chance to carry on our work," he said. "I take friendly matches lightly. The important thing for

me is the official competition which for Brazil begins on June 10th.

"We will be playing against a strong team who will have enormous support. This is extremely important because we know what we will be facing after June 10."

Brazil, unbeaten in their last 14 games, have not conceded a goal in their last five.

Since qualifying for the World Cup finals they have scored away wins against both Italy and the Netherlands.

Seven of the squad at Brazil based. The rest play in Europe. ■ Glasgow Rangers' midfielder Trevor Steven was drafted into England's squad on Tuesday for the friendly against Brazil.

Sheikh Fahd meets Chinese

SHEIKH FAHD AL AHMED, president Olympic Council of Asia visited Beijing from March 15-17, heading a high ranking OCA delegation. Sheikh Fahd met Chinese officials and reviewed with final preparation for the XI Asian Games, scheduled for Sept 22-Oct 7, 1990. The OCA chief of delegation thoroughly investigated all related arrangements and also inspected newly completed facilities.

Sheikh Fahd expressed his total satisfaction over the preparations for the Games and stated that the preparations for the Games are proceeding on schedule and are of an excellent standard. Sheikh Fahd also noted that he was more than ever confident that the Games will witness the strong will of the Asian Olympic family and its solidarity with the noble principles of the Olympic movement. He added that full participation of OCA member NOC's is expected.

The XIth Asian Games, he concluded, will be an unique Asian contribution to the strong building of the Olympic family in Asia and the world over.

Platini recalls Fernandez

PARIS, March 23. (Reuters) French soccer team chief Michel Platini sprang a surprise yesterday by recalling his former midfield partner Luis Fernandez for the first time in almost two years.

Fernandez, 30, who now plays for Cannes, was named in a squad of 16 to meet Hungary in a friendly in Budapest next Wednesday.

The robust Fernandez played a key role as ball-winner in the great French sides of the 1980s when he teamed up with Platini, Alain Giresse and Jean Tigana to form a magnificent midfield quartet.

But his career has been troubled by injuries and disputes with his clubs over the past two years and he has twice been at the centre of highly-publicised rows in recent weeks.

Piqued at being overlooked by Platini, he said in an interview he would refuse selection for France. Shortly after, he was banned from his club Cannes and told he would never play for them again — only to be reinstated a few days later.

"He's been playing well for his club for some time," Platini explained. "If he makes his mark and

fits in with the squad, he will stay. If not, he will go back to Cannes. That's the law of football. As a player I know Luis but not as a coach."

Fernandez won the last of his 44 caps against Northern Ireland in April, 1988.

Platini, who left out ace striker Jean-Pierre Papin to give the Marseille player a rest after some strenuous work in the League and European Cup, named two uncapped forwards.

Squad: Goalkeepers — Bruno Martini (Auxerre), Gilles Roussel (Sochaux).

Defenders — Manuel Amoros (Marseille), Bastie Boli (Auxerre), Bernard Casoni (Toulon), Frank Sauze (Marseille), Franck Sylvestre (Sochaux).

Midfielders — Laurent Blanc (Montpellier), Jean-Philippe Durand (Bordeaux), Luis Fernandez (Cannes), Jean-Marc Ferreri (Bordeaux), Bernard Pardo (Bordeaux).

Strikers — Eric Cantona (Montpellier), Fabrice Divert (Caen), Christian Perez (Paris St Germain), Philippe Thibaut (St-Etienne).

Seles and Wiesner win easily, Edberg survives

Lendl and Sabatini knocked out

KEY BISCAVNE, Fla., March 23. (Reuters) Third-seeded Yugoslav Monica Seles will face 15th seed Judith Wiesner of Austria in the women's final after each posted straight-set victories at the \$2.55 million International Players Tennis Championships yesterday.

Swede Stefan Edberg, however, was lucky to take his place in the men's semifinals. Edberg, seeded third, fought off two match points to survive a two hour 45 minute, 6-7-7-6-6 struggle with Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek.

"It was a very, very close match which had everything," Edberg said.

Wiesner route fifth-seeded Spaniard Conchita Martinez 6-2 6-1 in just 54 minutes in a meeting of upset winners. On Wednesday Wiesner upset fourth seed Manuela Maleeva of Switzerland, while Martinez shocked top seed and defending champion Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

Seles, who has yet to drop a set, surrendered one more game than Wiesner but took the same 54 minutes to dispatch ninth seed Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-3 6-1.

The powerful Yugoslav needed four match points, missing the first three with forehand errors, but closed out the victory with a service winner.

The match between Edberg and the 47th-ranked Hlasek, played in difficult, windy conditions, came down to a controversial line call in the deciding tiebreak after the Swede was



Edberg celebrates his close win over Hlasek. (Reuters wirephoto)

broken twice while serving for the match in the third set.

Hlasek built a 6-4 tiebreak lead to reach double match point, but

Edberg pulled to 6-5 with a forehand winner.

On the second match point with both players at net, Hlasek thought he had won when he punched a forehand volley down the line. He thrust his arms up in victory only to have the line judge call the shot wide.

"It was a little sad what happened on match point because it took the edge off the match," said Edberg, who took the next two points to advance to the semifinals against 13th-seeded Spaniard Emilio Sanchez, top seed Ivan Lendl's fourth round conqueror.

Sanchez posted a 6-3 6-3 victory over 10th seed Martin Jaitt of Argentina yesterday. The other men's semifinal pits fifth seed Andre Agassi against seventh seed Jay Berger in an all American affair.

Sanchez pulled off Wednesday's first shocker when he converted his fourth match point to dump world number one Lendl 6-3 6-7 6-4 in a fourth round match.

In the following stadium court match, fifth-seeded Martinez sent the third-ranked Sabatini packing with a 7-6 6-2 quarterfinal upset.

Both Lendl and Sabatini appeared listless on Wednesday but their off-form performances did not lessen the satisfaction of their Spanish conquerors.

"I've beaten most of the top

guys before but he was the only one I couldn't win against," said the 15th-seeded Sanchez, who had lost three previous encounters to Lendl.

After dropping the first set and trailing 1-3 in the second, Lendl picked up the pace and began hitting his groundstrokes more aggressively.

The top seed levelled the match by taking the second set tiebreak 7-3, but Sanchez refused to fold.

Sanchez saved two break points in the opening game of the third set and carried his regained confidence to a 4-1 lead after breaking Lendl twice.

Lendl pulled to 4-5 and led 30-0, but Sanchez fought back and delivered a powerful forehand passing shot on his fourth match point.

Sabatini moved awkwardly in her quarter-final and made frequent errors to squander a 4-1 first set lead as the ninth-ranked Martinez came up with well-placed forehands to level the set.

Martinez, 17, pulled ahead 6-3 in the tiebreak, but Sabatini fought off three successive set points and staved off another at 7-6 and a fifth at 8-7.

After all that effort, however, Sabatini gave away the set with a double fault when Martinez led 9-8.

Sabatini continued to struggle in the second set as she lost her serve three times.

Dalglish angry

LONDON, March 23. (Reuters) Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish has criticised his opposite number at League championship rivals Aston Villa for suggesting top striker John Barnes should leave the Merseyside club and play overseas.

Graham Taylor, now in charge of League leaders Villa but formerly Barnes' manager at Watford before selling him to Liverpool in 1987, said earlier this week the England winger should test himself at the top level of European soccer.

Dalglish said on Tuesday: "I would have thought Taylor had enough to do with his own job without getting involved in anybody else's."

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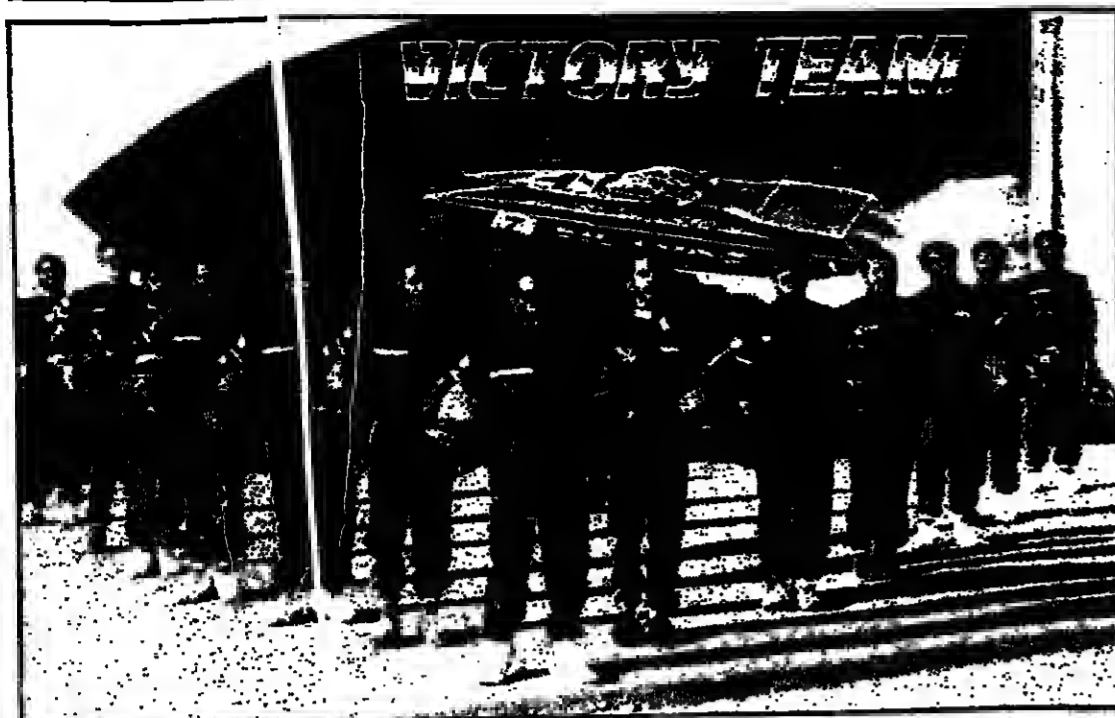
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SPORTS



The Victory team which took all top spots.

Al Marri fourth, Jarallah fifth

Victory dominate Bahrain race

VICTORY 7, crewed by Hamad Buhaliba and Tom Johnson, took first place yesterday in Bahrain's first ever offshore powerboat race.

Anyone following the development of the sport in the region will not be surprised at the results. Victory 7 was followed home by its team-mates Victory 11 and Victory 13.

The consensus of opinion is that, not only does Victory team have the best boats and maintenance crews, but it also has some of the region's best sportmen. On the night before the race, fellow competitor Simon Khoury, organiser of the Jordan event, blew an engine. Every team present at the Al Bandar Club, which hosted the race, found themselves involved in an against-the-clock race to get the boat in a fit condition to take part. Victory supplied not only expertise and the manpower of some of its top drivers and mechanics, but also all the spare parts required to make the boat seaworthy. This rare example of sportmanship was a delight to behold.

The first of the non-Victory boats to come home in Group A was a 25ft Cougar Sportscat, crewed by Mohammed Al Marri and Ian Back. This boat has also performed well in Dubai and Kuwait, but on this occasion was pushed back by a sudden reduction in rpm. This Dubai team was followed over the finish line by Kuwait's Mishal Al Jarallah, who found that sea and weather conditions were unfavourable to his boat.

In Group B it was again the Victory team which took top honours. This time it was Obeid Ghareeb and Sami Mohammed, who took Long Shot, a 24ft Skaeter into top position.

Hamad Buhaliba, pilot of Victory 7, who trains camels and falcons for Sheikh Maktoum of Dubai said, "Really, it was an easy race. We never pushed the boat, and I knew we would win. That means we've won every international race this season, and every event we have entered with this boat." Buhaliba's throttleman for this race was American racer Tom Johnson, who was filling in for Randy Scism, who is busy in Dubai getting ready for next month's Emirates sponsored race. "It was a very good race for us, and the boat handled well. The water was a bit flat, but there were no problems."

Victory 7's sister competitor Victory 60, which made its debut in Kuwait last week was not so lucky. Crewed by Sheikh Saeed Al Maktoum and Khalifa Hareh, and running close to Victory 7, the drive shaft broke after turning point 3.

Another disappointed man in the Victory team was Salem Khalifa, pilot of Victory 166, who hit the same problems as in Kuwait last week. "We lost the right lower unit. It's unfortunate, but that's racing. This has been a fantastic event, and we're looking forward to competing again next year."

Another boat which was performing well was the Dubai craft boat, crewed by Ahmed Juma and Neil Holmes. "We lost one engine — we were running well until then, but what can you do?"

The race was organised by Major Saeed Hareh and the Dubai Marine Club at the request of the Bahrain government. "I'd like to say a huge thank you to Bahrain for all their assistance in organising this event. Many drivers have already asked me about competing in next year's event, and you can't get a bigger compliment than that."

The race had run a special novice class for Bahraini novices. This was won by Sheikh Hamad and Sheikh Jabir, both novice racers. "I would be very keen to race again, but I think I would like a more competitive boat," said Sheikh Hamad. Even so the duo simply outclassed the rest of Group C and were never challenged from the time they hit the water.

"I'd love to race in the other events," said Sheikh Jabir. "Unfortunately powerboat racing is an expensive sport, and we will have to see how it develops here. This has definitely been an excellent first race."

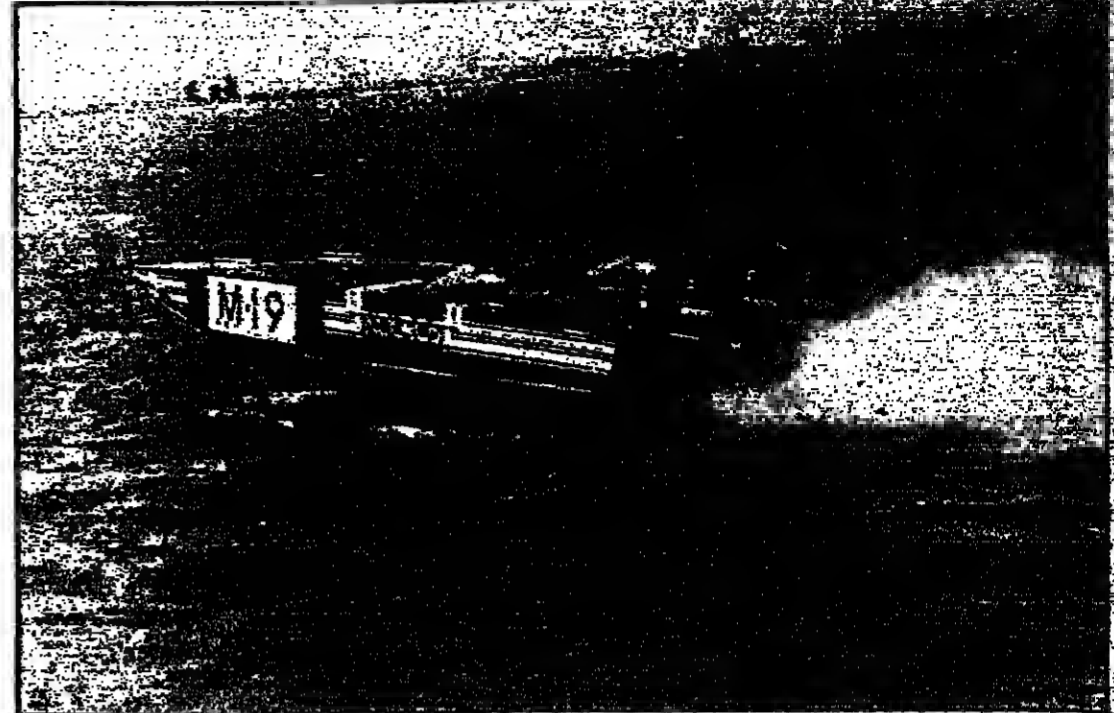
All but three of the twenty-one boats which started the event made it to the finish line.

Results

Group A: 1. Victory 7, Buhaliba/Johnson; 2. Victory 11, Musbah/Al Tayer; 3. Victory 13, Buhaliba/Buhaliba; 4. Unimarine, Al Marri/Back; 5. Kouras, Jarallah/Fernando.

Group B: 1. Victory 166, Ghareeb/Mohamed.

Group C: 1. Sheikh Hamad/Sheikh Jabir.



Jarallah's Kouras boat on its way to fifth place.

SPORTS BRIEFS

KIH tennis

SECOND-SEEDED Ayman Hijawi moved into the men's semifinals at the Kuwait International Hotel's 1990 Amateur Tennis Classic in convincing fashion by disposing of Guenter Zacher 6-2 6-3. Hijawi later teamed with Walid Abu Lughud to defeat Chaji John and Mohammed Saleh by the same 6-2 6-3 scores and advance to the Open doubles final. Earlier in the day, John and Saleh defeated M. Simon and K. Soenksen 6-0 6-0.

UEFA draws

GENEVA, March 23. (Reuters) Semifinal draws of the European Football Union's (UEFA) three club competitions today: UEFA Cup: Juventus (Italy) v Cologne (West Germany), Werder Bremen (West Germany) v Fiorentina (Italy). Winners of the Juventus v Cologne tie will be at home in first leg of final on May 9. The second leg will be on May 16. Cup Winners' Cup: Monaco (France) v Sampdoria (Italy), Anderlecht (Belgium) v Dinamo Bucharest (Romania). Champions' Cup: AC Milan (Italy) v Bayern Munich (West Germany), Marseille (France) v Benfica (Portugal). Semifinal matches in all three competitions to be played over two legs on April 4 and 18 with the first named teams at home in the first leg.

Season extended

NEW YORK, March 23. (Reuters) The 1990 Major League baseball season will be extended three days to October 3 to allow each team to play a full 162-game schedule, commissioner Fay Vincent announced yesterday.

Unbeaten ton

SYDNEY, March 23. (Reuters) Australian Test opener Mark Taylor celebrated the last-minute honour of being named New South Wales captain by scoring an unbeaten century on the first day of the Sheffield Shield cricket final against Queensland today. Taylor, 107 not out at stumps in the five-day game, piloted the home side to 231 for four wickets after sharing a 160-run opening partnership with Steve Small who made 75 before he was caught off Test paceman Carl Rackemann.

Ramzan cricket

A TENNIS ball cricket tournament will be organised by Shaikat Saeed Butt at the Bhoat Bangla Ground, Faisalabad, during Ramzan on Thursday and Friday evenings. Entries are open till the start of Ramzan. For details contact Shaikat Butt on Tel: 3924006 (res).

Title fight

AJACCIO, Corsica, March 23. (AP) Mexico's Jose Luis Ramirez will try again to recapture a world title when he goes after the World Boxing Association super-lightweight crown tomorrow against champion Juan Martin Coggi of Argentina.

Krishnan out

NEW DELHI, March 23. (UPI) India's chances of winning its Davis Cup tie with Japan were dealt a setback, with captain and top player Ramesh Krishnan pulling out with a foot injury, the Press Trust of India news agency reported today.

Al Hajri wins

MUSCAT: Qatari Saeed Al Hajri, partnered by Briton David Nicholson, in a Ford Bronco cruised to victory in the 760 km BP 2000 Trophy, Oman. In second place were Oman based expatriates David Bowler and Roh Hendriks in a private Range Rover, while third place went to the Marlboro Mitsubishi Team of Abbas Al Mousawi and Benny Smith in a Mitsubishi Pajero.

This win coupled with the points scored by the Qatari ace in the recent BP Dubai event leaves him as the leader in the 1990 Marlboro Desert Challenge title chase one point ahead of his countryman Abbas Al Mousawi the defending Champion. Four more rounds remain in this Middle East four wheel drive series.

"This was a great rally and I am pleased to win for the first time a Gulf International Raid event," said the Qatari ace. "I am pleased to lead the Championship but there is still a very long way to go."



Victory 7 on its way to victory.

Crack down on violence, referees told

ZU RICH, March 23. (Reuters) Violent play will be punished severely by referees at the World Cup final.

The tackle from behind was effectively barred as the International Football Federation (Fifa) ordered officials to send off any player committing the offence.

Other strict measures to clean up play were outlined to representatives of the 24 competing nations in the first session of a two-day Fifa "work shop" today.

"The measures have to be tougher than they were at the Mexico finals four years ago," Fifa spokesman Guido Tognoni said. "We have to protect the game."

Tognoni said Fifa general secretary Sepp Blatter appealed to teams at the private meeting to help stamp out rough play in the World Cup.

He said Blatter told them: "Football players are artists and I can't understand why artists should try to destroy each other."

The 36 referees who will officiate at the finals

have been summoned to an unprecedented three-day working session in Tirrenia, Italy next week to be given guidelines on the clamp down.

Apart from instructions to show red card to players who tackle from behind, they will have specific orders to cut down on actions which could encourage crowd violence and on time wasting.

Any player using "disproportionate or unnecessary strength" when committing a foul should be sent off automatically, they will be told.

Karpov defeats Timman

KUALA LUMPUR, March 23. (Reuters) Former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union beat Jan Timman of the Netherlands after 38 moves in the eighth game of the World Candidates Chess Final played today.

Karpov is now only a win away from a revenge match for the world title with current world champion Gary Kasparov, also of the Soviet Union. Karpov leads Timman by 5.5 points to 2.5 points. The winner is the first player to reach 6.5 points. One point is awarded for a win and half a point for a draw in the match scheduled over 12 games.

The ninth game will be played tomorrow. In today's four-hour game, Timman sprang a surprise on Karpov with a specially prepared line on the black side of the queen's Indian defence but Karpov was able to find a safe position.

When Timman failed to find the sharpest possible continuation, Karpov gradually gained the upper hand.

On move 19, Timman chose an unusual plan of play on the Queenside rather than the sharpest kingside attack, which could have been initiated with a pawn thrust with his king's bishop pawn or the logical break in the centre with 19...c5.

As both players drifted into time problems, Timman found that his prepared breakthrough on the queenside involving a pawn was inadequate.

With a series of lighting moves, Karpov swung his pieces in a direct attack on Timman's queen which proved decisive.



Last respects

Two young fans pay their last respects to veteran Soviet goalkeeper Lev Yashin, who died of stomach cancer on March 20. The funeral of the footballer, who won world acclaim in 15 years on the international scene, will be held today. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bailey to replace Hussain

Richards, Marshall to miss third Test

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, March 23. (Reuters) The West Indies face trying to level the five-Test cricket series against England in the third match starting this evening without two of their most experienced players.

The absence of captain Viv Richards and fast bowler Malcolm Marshall is likely to give a further psychological boost to an England side already buoyant from winning the first Test in Jamaica.

They also beat the West Indies Cricket Board President's XI on Tuesday.

Richards, who has had a haemorrhoids operation, is replaced by Gus Logie, while Curly Ambrose comes in for Marshall, who is recovering from a broken finger. Opening batsman Des Haynes takes over the captaincy.



Viv Richards

The last time both players were absent from a West Indies Test side they lost to Pakistan in Guyana two years ago — their only home defeat in the 1980s.

There is also some doubt about Ambrose's fitness after he



Malcolm Marshall

withdrew from the squad for the first two one-day internationals last month, also with haemorrhoids.

England manager Micky Stewart does not, however, accept their chances of retaining

or extending their series lead is any easier.

"We are still up against a West Indies side containing a lot of very talented players. Whatever line-up they put out they will present formidable opposition."

"The West Indies can continue their policy of playing four pace bowlers, and Ambrose is not a bad replacement for Marshall," he said.

But first Test century-maker Allan Lamb says England are in high spirits.

"Not so long ago you could have walked all over us but now you'd have a hard job climbing over us," he said.

England's dilemma is whether to include spinner Eddie Hemmings or to play seven batsmen as in the first Test.

Although the Queen's Park wicket has a history of producing

Kapil joins World XI for

Hadlee testimonial

WELLINGTON, March 23. (Reuters) Indian allrounder Kapil Dev has joined a World Eleven to play a New Zealand eleven in a four-match, one-day testimonial cricket series for champion New Zealand bowler, Richard Hadlee.

Kapil Dev, like Hadlee, is one of only four cricketers to have achieved the double of scoring 3,000 runs and taken 300 wickets in Test cricket. The others are Ian Botham of England and Imran Khan of Pakistan.

Bowler Terry Alderman, who has just completed a tour of New Zealand with the Australian team, will also be in the world squad for the first match in Christchurch on March 25.

The World Eleven will be boosted for the remaining games by two Australians and allrounder Greg Matthews for the second match. Test captain Allan Border will be available for the last two.

Teams

Teams for the first 50-over match in Christchurch: World Eleven: Derek Randall (England), Sunil Gavaskar,

Kapil Dev (India), Alvin Kalichar (Sri Lanka), Franklyn Stephenson (Sri Lanka), Michael Holding (West Indies), Aravinda de Silva, Ravi Ratnayake (Sri Lanka), Abdul Qadir (Pakistan), Terry Alderman (Australia), Lee Gernon (New Zealand).

New Zealand (from 13): Richard Hadlee, Martin Crowe, Jeff Crowe, John Wright, Martin Snedden, Ian Smith, John Bracewell, Ewen Chatfield, Paul McEwen, Stephen Boock, Lance Cairns, Andrew Jones, Mark Greatbatch.

New Zealand cricket stalwarts Richard Hadlee and John Wright today delayed decisions on their availability for the upcoming tour of England.

All-rounder Hadlee, who played his last Test in New Zealand earlier this month, has announced his retirement but said he might continue his career through the tour.

Team captain Wright, who led the Kiwis to victories over India and Australia this season, also still is undecided about whether to make the trip.

The New Zealand selectors are scheduled to name a 16-man touring squad tomorrow.

New Zealand team manager Bob Cunis said today he was hopeful both players would tour.

They would certainly be a great help to the side," he said.

"I don't see the need to take an 18-hour journey in to an uncertain and difficult local situation," he said. "Besides I've never been to all the 'Grande Prix'."

There is no money anywhere. The banks are shut. Yesterday, prices tripled on the previous day. Today, they went up four-fold. We were afraid that the problems would extend to the track."

But the Fisa president said the federation was reassured. "We had unofficial practices were able to go ahead as planned on Tuesday morning."

He said the track's drainage had coped well with recent heavy downpours of rain which had threatened to flood the course.

Balastre, one of the least known figures for Brazilian sports, after his winter-long dispute with former world champion Ayrton Senna, confirmed he would not go to Sao Paulo for the race.

Six personal bodyguards were assigned to him to make the trip but this week he decided not to go, citing an attack of bronchitis.

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